ALTERNATIVE
原作：アージュ
作画：時島 梓
英語訳：トコゴピ
04

MUV-LUV ALTERNATIVE

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 04

原作：アージュ
作画：蒔島 梓

C203-4
電撃コミックス

©2010 âge All rights reserved.

This is a Tonigobe tankoubon translation project.
It is translated and edited by one (insane) fan for English speaking fans.
This is a free fan-translation. If you paid for this, you've been gypped.
(But if someone gives you a little extra money for a job well done, you've been tipped.)

If you like the Muv-Luv series, and if it's within your means,
please help support the artists and other businesses
by purchasing this manga, games, and other related goods,
especially when licensed in your area.

English translation and editing: Tonigobe
http://scanslation.tonigobe.com/

Proofreading: Acroray
http://muvluvalternativenexus.blogspot.com/

Muv-Luv Alternative

Original Work:
âge

Manga:
Azusa Makijima

English Translation
and
Editing:
Tonigobe
http://scanslation.tonigobe.com/

Proofreading:
Acroray
http://muvluvalternativenexus.blogspot.com/

DC

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 04

原作：アージュ
作画：蒔島梓

C203-4
電撃コミックス

ALTERNATIVE

‹ 04 ›

CONTENTS

episode.20 003

episode.21 029

episode.22 053

episode.23 071

episode.24 109

episode.25 143

extra.IV 173

...IT'S BEST YOU DON'T KNOW
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU... SHIROGANE
!
ドキッ

...WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT ?
GRIP!
WHUDAM
...
...
...YOU SAW IT, RIGHT ?
I DIDN'T SEE THE CONTENTS
BUT, WHAT'S WITH THAT INSPECTION STAMP ?
YOU'RE NOT STICKING YOUR NECK INTO SOMETHING DANGEROUS... ARE YOU ?
...
...

...THAT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION
BESIDES... IF YOU DIDN'T INTEND TO GET CAUGHT, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PIN YOU DOWN SO EASILY
YOU IDIOT... EVEN IF IT WERE A JOKE, WE'RE COMRADES IN THE SAME UNIT, RIGHT ? WE HANDLE THINGS, NO QUESTIONS ASKED
...YOU'RE NOT APPREHENDING ME ?
スッ

...AND AS A SOLDIER, I CAN'T POSSIBLY REMAIN SILENT
AS A COMRADE, I CAN'T POSSIBLY DISREGARD IT
IF, IN FACT, YOU ARE INVOLVED IN SOMETHING... IT'S NOT ONLY A PROBLEM FOR YOU
... ...
...AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY YOU DON'T WANT TO KILL ME ?

IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, AYAMINE... YOU
THIS IS TOO SERIOUS A CONVERSATION EVEN FOR ME
...I BETTER STOP...

WHA-... WHAT ARE YOU DOING
(GASP) !!
!?
STR
ID!
I'M GONNA TAKE A SHOWER ...SO, GET OUTTA HERE
...THIS IS MY ROOM
I'M GOING, I'M GOING !!
I... I GOT IT !
...OR, ARE YOU GONNA WATCH ME THE WHOLE TIME ?
AYAMINE... WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU THINKING ...?
SHE WON'T LISTEN TO ANYTHING
...
...

episode:20

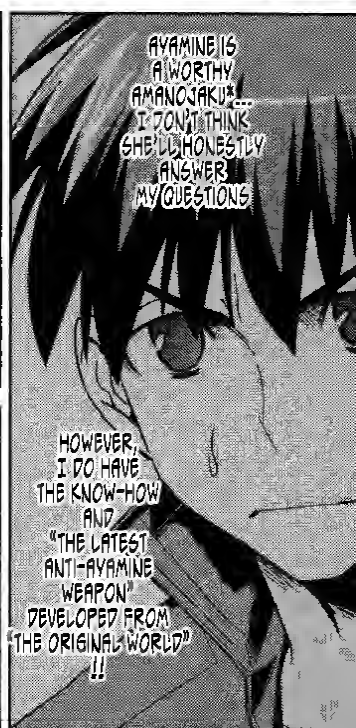
ÁGE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIGOBE / WWW.TONIGOBE.COM
PROOFREAD BY ACROBAT / NUVLUVALTERNATIVENEXUS.BLOGSPOT.COM
THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF ITS WITHIN YOUR MEANS

...HM—MM...
TAKERU, WHAT'S WRONG? IT SEEMS YOUR CHOPSTICKS AREN'T MAKING ANY PROGRESS, BUT...
THAT AYAMINE... WHAT IS SHE HIDING?
IT'LL BE NICE IF SHE CAN SETTLE HER PERSONAL PROBLEMS, BUT...
BUT, THAT INSPECTION STAMP
Ayamine Kei
THERE'S NO EXPLANATION FOR THAT* UNLESS THERE'S AN ACCOMPLICE...
AT THAT MOMENT, AYAMINE'S EYES
...BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU, SHIROGANE
THOSE WERE NOT THE EYES OF SOMEONE TELLING A JOKE...
SHOULD I BEND YUUKO-SENSEI'S EAR?
...NO ...SHE MUST BE BUSY ADJUSTING THE METASTASIS DEVICE, NOW, AND...
TA—KE—RU—?
O—I

EITHER WAY, UNLESS I CAN GET AN INFORMATIVE CONVERSATION OUT OF AYAMINE ...
STILL, SINCE IT'S HER, I GET THE IMPRESSION SHE'LL EQUIVOCALLY DODGE THE SUBJECT AGAIN...
EE OW OW OW OW OW OW OW
STILL, IT'S UNUSUAL, HUH ...THAT AYAMINE ISN'T HERE ON A DAY WHEN THERE'S YAKISOBA
NORMALLY, SHE WOULD BE THE FIRST ONE FLYING OVER HERE, AND YET ...
UWAH !?
THAT'S IT (GASP) !!
...YAKISOBA ?
WHAT DO YOU WANT ?

SHIROGANE... I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR NOSY FACE
.....THAT'S A RATHER FINE THING TO SAY...
ESPECIALLY SINCE I BROUGHT YOU SOME WONDERFULLY MAGNIFICENT FOOD


AYAMINE IS A WORTHY AMANOJAKU*... I DON'T THINK SHE'LL HONESTLY ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
HOWEVER, I DO HAVE THE KNOW-HOW AND "THE LATEST ANTI-AYAMINE WEAPON" DEVELOPED FROM "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !!

*SEE NOTES AT END OF MANGA

IN "THIS WORLD," AS FAR AS AYAMINE IS CONCERNED, NO GREATER TREASURE EXISTS (PERHAPS) !
THE ULTIMATE MENU, BORN FROM AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT OF MINE...
THIS IS... THE "YAKISOBA PAN"* (GASP) !!
...I'LL REVIVER HER BY TRANSCENDING SPACE AND TIME, HERE AND NOW !!
...
...
UHM... HUH ...?
DAMN IT... DID I TEASE AYAMINE TOO MUCH ...?
IS THAT SO, IS IT... THERE ISN'T A GUY WHO CAN BE LURED BY FOOD AFTER A SPEECH LIKE THAT, IS THERE...

*YAKISOBA PAN = STIR FRIED SOBA (CHOW MEIN) NOODLES ON A BUN OR FRENCH BREAD (SUBMARINE) ROLL

UOH (GASP) !?
I MEAN, THE WHOLE INTENT IS FOR YOU TO EAT IT...
SINCE I PREPARED IT JUST FOR YOU
OF... OF COURSE
...MAY I EAT IT ?
GRAB!
...
...
H-... HOW IS IT ?
I NEVER IMAGINED THERE WOULD BE A DAY WHERE I WOULD BE FEEDING AYAMINE YAKISOBA PAN...
MUNCH
MUNCH
...
...
HEY, AYAMINE ...
HAS IT CHANGED THAT MUCH !?
HAS CHANGED... JUST NOW ...!
... HISTORY ...

THAT IS... SORRY FOR ENTERING YOUR ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION... IT'S MY BAD
...
...
HOWEVER, ABOUT THOSE LETTERS, EARLIER...
DO YOU... TRULY HAVE NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT THEM ?
I'LL BE FRANK
DURING THAT "I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU" STUFF OVER THAT LETTER
I WAS THINKING THAT YOU'RE INVOLVED IN SOME CONSPIRACY
OR AT WORST, WHETHER OR NOT I CAN LEND A HAND
...
...
BUT, IF YOU WERE A COVERT OPERATIVE OR SOMETHING
IT'S TOO FOOLISH TO THINK HOW... YOU COULD DROP A LETTER, OR LEAVE THEM ON TOP OF YOUR DESK
OR RATHER, IT'S NATURAL TO THINK YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE IN ORDER TO SHOW THEM, RIGHT ?
...YOU'VE GOT SOME AMAZING IMAGINATION, HUH

I'M NOT SAYING FOR YOU TO TELL ME EVERYTHING IN PARTICULAR
BUT, SPEAKING AS A FELLOW SOLDIER OF SQUAD 207
IF YOU'RE IN SOME SORT OF TROUBLE... DON'T BEAR WITH IT BY YOURSELF
AND, SPEAKING AS A SOLDIER OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORCES
IF YOU CAN DEAL WITH YOUR PROBLEM BY YOURSELF, THEN I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT
...I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT
... ...
AH... OI
-CIOUS
EH ?
IT WAS DELICIOUS
MAKE ME ONE... AGAIN
Y-... YO...
CREAK...
SLAM
... ...

THE NEXT MORNING
SPLASH
TAKERU, WAKE UP!
TAKERU!
THUMP
THUMP
CAN I... TRUST HER ...?
YOU MORON! AN ALL-HANDS ALERT STARTED NOT LONG AGO
? WHAT IS IT ? A SURPRISE DRILL ?
I'M COMING IN, TAKERU ...!
WHAT... YOU'RE ALREADY UP, ARE YOU
WHAT... DO YOU ALSO, LIKE, LOITER AROUND BEFORE A ROLL CALL ?
IN THE END... I COULDN'T DISCUSS ANYTHING, EVEN IF I ENCOUNTERED THE SOURCE, I GUESS
THAT AYAMINE IS UNREADABLE AS EVER, ISN'T SHE...
INCIDENTLY... I APOLOGIZED TO AYAMINE... ABOUT YESTERDAY, BUT...
CONVERSELY, SHE APOLOGIZED TO ME...
I DON'T KNOW... AFTER THAT, I ONLY HEARD THAT WE ARE TO STAND-BY IN OUR QUARTERS IN SEMI-PREPAREDNESS
... ?

YEAH... THERE'S NOTHING TO DO UNTIL TOMORROW
I THOUGHT I'D SEE HOW MUCH YOU GUYS IMPROVED WHILE I WASN'T AROUND, BUT STILL
WHAT... ARE YOU ALREADY DONE WITH COMMANDER KOUDZUKI'S SPECIAL TASKS ?
APART FROM THAT, WE'RE ALWAYS ON ALERT AS IT IS, AREN'T WE ?
I THOUGHT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO MIX UP TRAINING TODAY
YEAH... ABOUT THAT
I SPOKE TO HER, TOO, BUT... I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HER ALL THAT WELL
AS EXPECTED WE WEREN'T ABLE TO TALK ABOUT THE LETTER ...
HOW... THAT CAME OUT PRETTY BOASTFUL, DIDN'T IT ?
HAVING EXPERIENCED THE UNCANNINESS OF THE NEWLY DEVELOPED OS MYSELF
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
!?
ATTENTION... THIS IS A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT.. ALL COMBAT UNITS STAND BY IN FULL ARMAMENT
I REPEAT... THIS IS A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT... ALL COMBAT UNITS

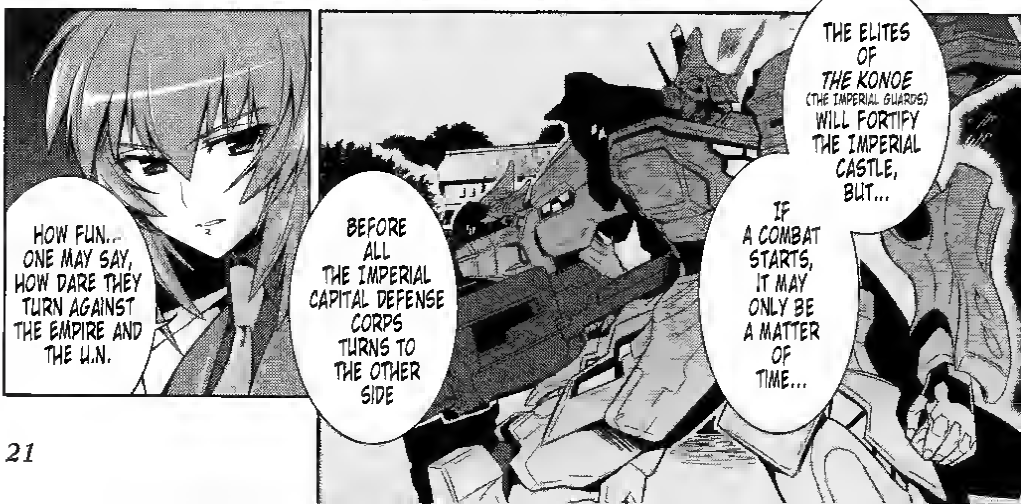
SUDDENLY, AT A TIME LIKE THIS, A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT ...!?
CAN IT BE... THAT ALTERNATIVE 5 HAS TRULY MOVED UP ...!?
COMBAT UNITS STAND BY IN FULL ARMAMENT
I REPEAT... THIS IS A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT... ALL
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS THE CHRISTMAS ...CAN IT BE !?
WHAT IS THIS !? I DON'T RECALL THERE BEING AN ALARM LIKE THIS !?
...TAKERU !!
I KNOW !!
I'M GONNA GO TO YUUKO-SENSEI ! I'M SORRY, BUT PLEASE INFORM EVERYONE !
UNDER-STOOD !

—CENTRAL COMMAND
HOW'S THE SITUATION AROUND THE IMPERIAL CASTLE ! REPORT TO US IMMEDIATELY !!
THEY HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY CAPTURED THE TOKYO WATER FILTRATION PLANT AND THE POWER PLANT !
THEY HAVE TAKEN CONTROL OF BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE IMPERIAL CAPITOL (THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENTARY HOUSE) !!
THERE'S STILL NO MOVEMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES SEVENTH FLEET THAT'S DEPLOYED OFF THE SAGAMI BAY !
THEY ALSO GOT AROUND TO THE MAIN NEWSPAPER COMPANY AND THE BROADCASTING STATION... TOKYO'S COMMUNICATION SITES ARE —
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING ?
WELL... I WAS SURE THAT ALTERNATIVES ...
AAH... THE CLASSIFIED LEVEL IS LOWER HERE THAN IN MY ROOM, IS IT
SHIROGANE !? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...
... YUUKO-SENSEI (GASP) !!
INDEED, IT HAS... I WONDER WHERE CAN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY INTERVENE IN THIS CONFUSION... THEY OUGHT TO BE CAREFUL
— IT'S BECOME DIFFICULT, HASN'T IT...

THERE'S A BIT OF TROUBLE HAPPENING AT THE HEART OF THE EMPIRE ...
A "COUP D'ETAT" — SO TO SPEAK
A COUP D'ETAT ...!?
STILL... I HAVE NO SUCH MEMORIES ABOUT THIS FROM "THE PREVIOUS WORLD"!!
THIS IS A FIRST FOR YOU, HUH ? SHIROGANE TAKERU
UWAA (GASP) !?
SECTION CHIEF YOROI ...!?
SE- ...
BA
WELL, WELL ...THIS HAS BECOME QUITE A SERIOUS MATTER, HASN'T IT

SO IT SEEMS... SO, IS THE SHOGUN SAFE ?
HOWEVER... TO ALMOST TAKE POSSESSION OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL IN THIS SHORT TIME ...GOOD GRACIOUS, THAT TAKES GREAT SKILL
YOU'LL GET NOTHING OUT OF ME, EVEN IF YOU PRAISE ME, Y'KNOW... WHAT ACCOUNTS FOR THE CORE OF THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE SEEMS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL GARRISON
YOU MUST GIVE YOUR OWNER A HEADACHE, NO DOUBT
WHEN YOU WERE HERE LAST WHO WAS THE ONE WHO KEPT CHATTERING ON AND ON, I WONDER ?
IT'S AS EXPECTED, ISN'T IT... EVEN THOUGH THE IMPERIAL ARMY IS IN THE COURSE OF FRANTICALLY PERFORMING AN INFORMATION BLOCKADE...
YOU ALREADY KNOW MOST OF THE SITUATION, IT SEEMS

IF SHE KNOWS ABOUT THIS SITUATION, SHE'LL BE WORRIED ABOUT THAT PERSON, WON'T SHE...
THAT'S MEIYA'S RELATIVE... ISN'T IT
THE SHOGUN


HOW FUN... ONE MAY SAY, HOW DARE THEY TURN AGAINST THE EMPIRE AND THE U.N.
BEFORE ALL THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL DEFENSE CORPS TURNS TO THE OTHER SIDE
IF A COMBAT STARTS, IT MAY ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME...
THE ELITES OF THE KONOE (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) WILL FORTIFY THE IMPERIAL CASTLE, BUT...

I'M SURE IT FEELS GOOD TO CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT
IF A SYCOPHANT DOESN'T STAY WITHIN HIS BOUNDS ...DOES HE GET BUMPED OFF ?
NOT AT ALL... IF IT CAN WORK FOR A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LIKE THE DOCTOR, COME HELL OR HIGH WATER, METAPHORICALLY SPEAKING
...YOU'RE A FINE ONE TO SAY THAT... IS IT FOR YOUR OWN PURPOSE ?
YES OF COURSE ...
IT'S THE NATURE OF MY BUSINESS... I DO NOT CHOOSE THE MEANS IN ACCOMPLISHING AN OBJECTIVE
IT'S THE SAME FOR YOU, TOO, ISN'T IT... DOCTOR KOUDZUKI
WHETHER IT'S A DIRECT RELATIVE OF THE SHOGUN, OR THE DAUGHTER OF THE PRIME MINISTER...
EVEN IF IT'S SOMEONE'S BIOLOGICAL DAUGHTER... THEY ARE WILLING SACRIFICES
!?

THAT STUFF JUST NOW... WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT !?
WHAT IS IT ? SHIROGANE TAKERU
YOROI-SAN (GASP) !!
AND... WE ONLY GET RID OF THE UNFAVORABLE ONES, YOU KNOW ...
HOPELESS, AREN'T YOU... BUT, SURELY, WERE YOU EXPECTING TO GET AN ANSWER IF YOU ASKED ?
THE PRIME MINISTER'S DAUGHTER IS CLASS REP
THE DIRECT RELATIVE OF THE SHOGUN MUST BE MEIYA !!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY ... SACRIFICE !?
THAT STUFF ABOUT SOMEONE'S BIOLOGICAL DAUGHTER ...IS MIKOTO, RIGHT !?

RELAX... WE WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THESE SACRIFICES
WH-... WHAT DID YOU SAY ...!?
WE, INCLUDING DOCTOR KOUDZUKI AND I, FULLY INTEND TO UNDERSTAND THE METHOD AND THE TIMING...
THAT MAKES THE BEST USE OF THESE SACRIFICES
ALONG WITH THE BLOOD RELATIVE IN LINE TO INHERIT THE SHOGUNATE... THERE'S THE DAUGHTER OF TAMASE GENJOUSAI, THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE U.N.
AND, THE DAUGHTER OF SAKAKI KORECHIKA, THE PRIME MINISTER...
!?
FURTHERMORE, THERE'S THE DAUGHTER OF AYAMINE SHUUKAKU, THE FORMER LIEUTENANT-GENERAL OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY
AND LASTLY, THE DAUGHTER OF YOURS TRULY, YOROI SAKON, SECTION CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 2ND DIVISION
YOU DIDN'T THINK ALL THESE WONDERFUL, IMPRESSIVE MEMBERS WERE GATHERED HERE BY ACCIDENT, DID YOU ?
!!

THAT'S TRUE... WHEN I UNDERSTOOD THE FACTS IN THE "PREVIOUS WORLD," EVEN I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS BY ACCIDENT
I THOUGHT MIKOTO WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T HAVE SUCH A FATE ...!
YOU... WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU INTEND TO DO TO THEM
VICE-COMMANDER! IT APPEARS THE COUP-D'ETAT FORCE IS BROADCASTING A STATEMENT SHALL I PATCH IT THROUGH?
!
...PLEASE DO
I'M PUTTING IT UP ON THE MAIN SCREEN!
!?
BA
M

ZA!
ZA
ZA
THIS FACE... SOMEWHERE IN THE PAST, I'VE....
WHAT IS IT ...?
I DEAR CITIZENS OF THE NATION
I AM FROM THE IMPERIAL NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCE AND A MEMBER OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL DEFENSE REGIMENT ...MY NAME IS CAPTAIN SAGIRI NAOYA

PECTORAL

...IT'S BEST YOU DON'T KNOW
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU... SHIROGANE
!
ドキッ

...WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT ?
GRIP!
WHUDAM
...
...
...YOU SAW IT, RIGHT ?
I DIDN'T SEE THE CONTENTS
BUT, WHAT'S WITH THAT INSPECTION STAMP ?
YOU'RE NOT STICKING YOUR NECK INTO SOMETHING DANGEROUS... ARE YOU ?
...
...

...THAT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION
BESIDES... IF YOU DIDN'T INTEND TO GET CAUGHT, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PIN YOU DOWN SO EASILY
YOU IDIOT... EVEN IF IT WERE A JOKE, WE'RE COMRADES IN THE SAME UNIT, RIGHT ? WE HANDLE THINGS, NO QUESTIONS ASKED
...YOU'RE NOT APPREHENDING ME ?
スッ

...AND AS A SOLDIER, I CAN'T POSSIBLY REMAIN SILENT
AS A COMRADE, I CAN'T POSSIBLY DISREGARD IT
IF, IN FACT, YOU ARE INVOLVED IN SOMETHING... IT'S NOT ONLY A PROBLEM FOR YOU
... ...
...AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY YOU DON'T WANT TO KILL ME ?

IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, AYAMINE... YOU
THIS IS TOO SERIOUS A CONVERSATION EVEN FOR ME
...I BETTER STOP...

WHA-... WHAT ARE YOU DOING
(GASP) !!
!?
STR
ID!
I'M GONNA TAKE A SHOWER ...SO, GET OUTTA HERE
...THIS IS MY ROOM
I'M GOING, I'M GOING !!
I... I GOT IT !
...OR, ARE YOU GONNA WATCH ME THE WHOLE TIME ?
AYAMINE... WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU THINKING ...?
SHE WON'T LISTEN TO ANYTHING
...
...

episode:20

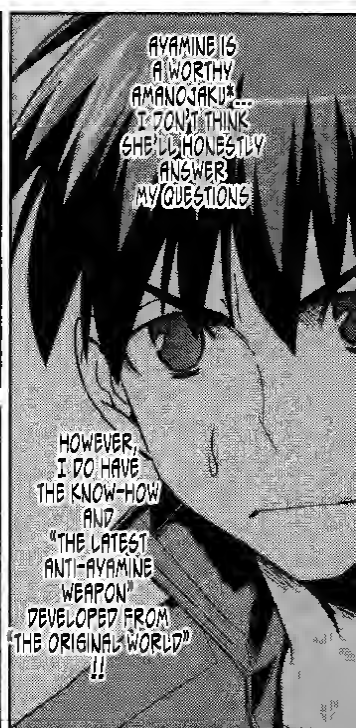
ÁGE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIGOBE / WWW.TONIGOBE.COM
PROOFREAD BY ACROBAT / NUVLUVALTERNATIVENEXUS.BLOGSPOT.COM
THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF ITS WITHIN YOUR MEANS

...HM—MM...
TAKERU, WHAT'S WRONG? IT SEEMS YOUR CHOPSTICKS AREN'T MAKING ANY PROGRESS, BUT...
THAT AYAMINE... WHAT IS SHE HIDING?
IT'LL BE NICE IF SHE CAN SETTLE HER PERSONAL PROBLEMS, BUT...
BUT, THAT INSPECTION STAMP
Ayamine Kei
THERE'S NO EXPLANATION FOR THAT* UNLESS THERE'S AN ACCOMPLICE...
AT THAT MOMENT, AYAMINE'S EYES
...BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU, SHIROGANE
THOSE WERE NOT THE EYES OF SOMEONE TELLING A JOKE...
SHOULD I BEND YUUKO-SENSEI'S EAR?
...NO ...SHE MUST BE BUSY ADJUSTING THE METASTASIS DEVICE, NOW, AND...
TA—KE—RU—?
O—I

EITHER WAY, UNLESS I CAN GET AN INFORMATIVE CONVERSATION OUT OF AYAMINE ...
STILL, SINCE IT'S HER, I GET THE IMPRESSION SHE'LL EQUIVOCALLY DODGE THE SUBJECT AGAIN...
EE OW OW OW OW OW OW OW
STILL, IT'S UNUSUAL, HUH ...THAT AYAMINE ISN'T HERE ON A DAY WHEN THERE'S YAKISOBA
NORMALLY, SHE WOULD BE THE FIRST ONE FLYING OVER HERE, AND YET ...
UWAH !?
THAT'S IT (GASP) !!
...YAKISOBA ?
WHAT DO YOU WANT ?

SHIROGANE... I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR NOSY FACE
.....THAT'S A RATHER FINE THING TO SAY...
ESPECIALLY SINCE I BROUGHT YOU SOME WONDERFULLY MAGNIFICENT FOOD


AYAMINE IS A WORTHY AMANOJAKU*... I DON'T THINK SHE'LL HONESTLY ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
HOWEVER, I DO HAVE THE KNOW-HOW AND "THE LATEST ANTI-AYAMINE WEAPON" DEVELOPED FROM "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !!

*SEE NOTES AT END OF MANGA

IN "THIS WORLD," AS FAR AS AYAMINE IS CONCERNED, NO GREATER TREASURE EXISTS (PERHAPS) !
THE ULTIMATE MENU, BORN FROM AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT OF MINE...
THIS IS... THE "YAKISOBA PAN"* (GASP) !!
...I'LL REVIVER HER BY TRANSCENDING SPACE AND TIME, HERE AND NOW !!
...
...
UHM... HUH ...?
DAMN IT... DID I TEASE AYAMINE TOO MUCH ...?
IS THAT SO, IS IT... THERE ISN'T A GUY WHO CAN BE LURED BY FOOD AFTER A SPEECH LIKE THAT, IS THERE...

*YAKISOBA PAN = STIR FRIED SOBA (CHOW MEIN) NOODLES ON A BUN OR FRENCH BREAD (SUBMARINE) ROLL

UOH (GASP) !?
I MEAN, THE WHOLE INTENT IS FOR YOU TO EAT IT...
SINCE I PREPARED IT JUST FOR YOU
OF... OF COURSE
...MAY I EAT IT ?
GRAB!
...
...
H-... HOW IS IT ?
I NEVER IMAGINED THERE WOULD BE A DAY WHERE I WOULD BE FEEDING AYAMINE YAKISOBA PAN...
MUNCH
MUNCH
...
...
HEY, AYAMINE ...
HAS IT CHANGED THAT MUCH !?
HAS CHANGED... JUST NOW ...!
... HISTORY ...

THAT IS... SORRY FOR ENTERING YOUR ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION... IT'S MY BAD
...
...
HOWEVER, ABOUT THOSE LETTERS, EARLIER...
DO YOU... TRULY HAVE NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT THEM ?
I'LL BE FRANK
DURING THAT "I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU" STUFF OVER THAT LETTER
I WAS THINKING THAT YOU'RE INVOLVED IN SOME CONSPIRACY
OR AT WORST, WHETHER OR NOT I CAN LEND A HAND
...
...
BUT, IF YOU WERE A COVERT OPERATIVE OR SOMETHING
IT'S TOO FOOLISH TO THINK HOW... YOU COULD DROP A LETTER, OR LEAVE THEM ON TOP OF YOUR DESK
OR RATHER, IT'S NATURAL TO THINK YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE IN ORDER TO SHOW THEM, RIGHT ?
...YOU'VE GOT SOME AMAZING IMAGINATION, HUH

I'M NOT SAYING FOR YOU TO TELL ME EVERYTHING IN PARTICULAR
BUT, SPEAKING AS A FELLOW SOLDIER OF SQUAD 207
IF YOU'RE IN SOME SORT OF TROUBLE... DON'T BEAR WITH IT BY YOURSELF
AND, SPEAKING AS A SOLDIER OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORCES
IF YOU CAN DEAL WITH YOUR PROBLEM BY YOURSELF, THEN I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT
...I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT
... ...
AH... OI
-CIOUS
EH ?
IT WAS DELICIOUS
MAKE ME ONE... AGAIN
Y-... YO...
CREAK...
SLAM
... ...

THE NEXT MORNING
SPLASH
TAKERU, WAKE UP!
TAKERU!
THUMP
THUMP
CAN I... TRUST HER ...?
YOU MORON! AN ALL-HANDS ALERT STARTED NOT LONG AGO
? WHAT IS IT ? A SURPRISE DRILL ?
I'M COMING IN, TAKERU ...!
WHAT... YOU'RE ALREADY UP, ARE YOU
WHAT... DO YOU ALSO, LIKE, LOITER AROUND BEFORE A ROLL CALL ?
IN THE END... I COULDN'T DISCUSS ANYTHING, EVEN IF I ENCOUNTERED THE SOURCE, I GUESS
THAT AYAMINE IS UNREADABLE AS EVER, ISN'T SHE...
INCIDENTLY... I APOLOGIZED TO AYAMINE... ABOUT YESTERDAY, BUT...
CONVERSELY, SHE APOLOGIZED TO ME...
I DON'T KNOW... AFTER THAT, I ONLY HEARD THAT WE ARE TO STAND-BY IN OUR QUARTERS IN SEMI-PREPAREDNESS
... ?

YEAH... THERE'S NOTHING TO DO UNTIL TOMORROW
I THOUGHT I'D SEE HOW MUCH YOU GUYS IMPROVED WHILE I WASN'T AROUND, BUT STILL
WHAT... ARE YOU ALREADY DONE WITH COMMANDER KOUDZUKI'S SPECIAL TASKS ?
APART FROM THAT, WE'RE ALWAYS ON ALERT AS IT IS, AREN'T WE ?
I THOUGHT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO MIX UP TRAINING TODAY
YEAH... ABOUT THAT
I SPOKE TO HER, TOO, BUT... I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HER ALL THAT WELL
AS EXPECTED WE WEREN'T ABLE TO TALK ABOUT THE LETTER ...
HOW... THAT CAME OUT PRETTY BOASTFUL, DIDN'T IT ?
HAVING EXPERIENCED THE UNCANNINESS OF THE NEWLY DEVELOPED OS MYSELF
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
!?
ATTENTION... THIS IS A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT.. ALL COMBAT UNITS STAND BY IN FULL ARMAMENT
I REPEAT... THIS IS A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT... ALL COMBAT UNITS

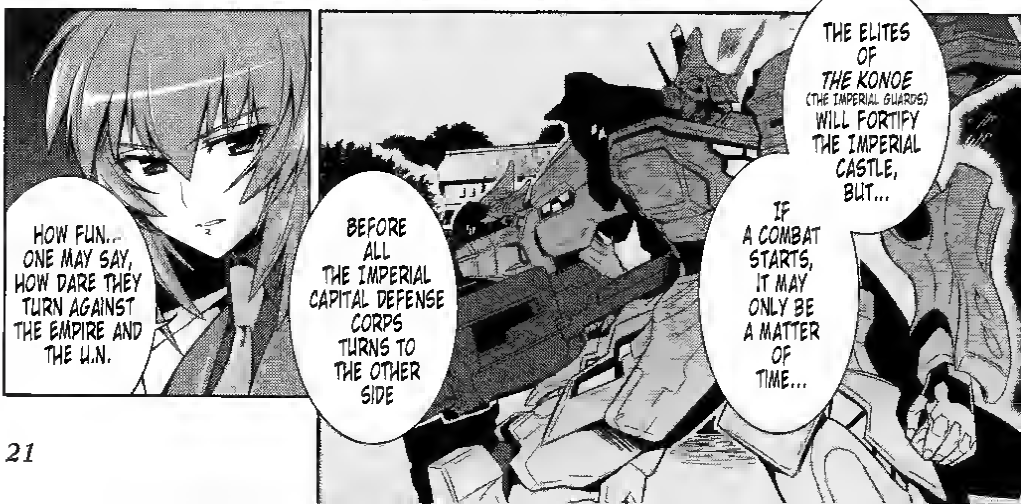
SUDDENLY, AT A TIME LIKE THIS, A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT ...!?
CAN IT BE... THAT ALTERNATIVE 5 HAS TRULY MOVED UP ...!?
COMBAT UNITS STAND BY IN FULL ARMAMENT
I REPEAT... THIS IS A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT... ALL
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS THE CHRISTMAS ...CAN IT BE !?
WHAT IS THIS !? I DON'T RECALL THERE BEING AN ALARM LIKE THIS !?
...TAKERU !!
I KNOW !!
I'M GONNA GO TO YUUKO-SENSEI ! I'M SORRY, BUT PLEASE INFORM EVERYONE !
UNDER-STOOD !

—CENTRAL COMMAND
HOW'S THE SITUATION AROUND THE IMPERIAL CASTLE ! REPORT TO US IMMEDIATELY !!
THEY HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY CAPTURED THE TOKYO WATER FILTRATION PLANT AND THE POWER PLANT !
THEY HAVE TAKEN CONTROL OF BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE IMPERIAL CAPITOL (THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENTARY HOUSE) !!
THERE'S STILL NO MOVEMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES SEVENTH FLEET THAT'S DEPLOYED OFF THE SAGAMI BAY !
THEY ALSO GOT AROUND TO THE MAIN NEWSPAPER COMPANY AND THE BROADCASTING STATION... TOKYO'S COMMUNICATION SITES ARE —
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING ?
WELL... I WAS SURE THAT ALTERNATIVES ...
AAH... THE CLASSIFIED LEVEL IS LOWER HERE THAN IN MY ROOM, IS IT
SHIROGANE !? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...
... YUUKO-SENSEI (GASP) !!
INDEED, IT HAS... I WONDER WHERE CAN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY INTERVENE IN THIS CONFUSION... THEY OUGHT TO BE CAREFUL
— IT'S BECOME DIFFICULT, HASN'T IT...

THERE'S A BIT OF TROUBLE HAPPENING AT THE HEART OF THE EMPIRE ...
A "COUP D'ETAT" — SO TO SPEAK
A COUP D'ETAT ...!?
STILL... I HAVE NO SUCH MEMORIES ABOUT THIS FROM "THE PREVIOUS WORLD"!!
THIS IS A FIRST FOR YOU, HUH ? SHIROGANE TAKERU
UWAA (GASP) !?
SECTION CHIEF YOROI ...!?
SE- ...
BA
WELL, WELL ...THIS HAS BECOME QUITE A SERIOUS MATTER, HASN'T IT

SO IT SEEMS... SO, IS THE SHOGUN SAFE ?
HOWEVER... TO ALMOST TAKE POSSESSION OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL IN THIS SHORT TIME ...GOOD GRACIOUS, THAT TAKES GREAT SKILL
YOU'LL GET NOTHING OUT OF ME, EVEN IF YOU PRAISE ME, Y'KNOW... WHAT ACCOUNTS FOR THE CORE OF THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE SEEMS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL GARRISON
YOU MUST GIVE YOUR OWNER A HEADACHE, NO DOUBT
WHEN YOU WERE HERE LAST WHO WAS THE ONE WHO KEPT CHATTERING ON AND ON, I WONDER ?
IT'S AS EXPECTED, ISN'T IT... EVEN THOUGH THE IMPERIAL ARMY IS IN THE COURSE OF FRANTICALLY PERFORMING AN INFORMATION BLOCKADE...
YOU ALREADY KNOW MOST OF THE SITUATION, IT SEEMS

IF SHE KNOWS ABOUT THIS SITUATION, SHE'LL BE WORRIED ABOUT THAT PERSON, WON'T SHE...
THAT'S MEIYA'S RELATIVE... ISN'T IT
THE SHOGUN


HOW FUN... ONE MAY SAY, HOW DARE THEY TURN AGAINST THE EMPIRE AND THE U.N.
BEFORE ALL THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL DEFENSE CORPS TURNS TO THE OTHER SIDE
IF A COMBAT STARTS, IT MAY ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME...
THE ELITES OF THE KONOE (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) WILL FORTIFY THE IMPERIAL CASTLE, BUT...

I'M SURE IT FEELS GOOD TO CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT
IF A SYCOPHANT DOESN'T STAY WITHIN HIS BOUNDS ...DOES HE GET BUMPED OFF ?
NOT AT ALL... IF IT CAN WORK FOR A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LIKE THE DOCTOR, COME HELL OR HIGH WATER, METAPHORICALLY SPEAKING
...YOU'RE A FINE ONE TO SAY THAT... IS IT FOR YOUR OWN PURPOSE ?
YES OF COURSE ...
IT'S THE NATURE OF MY BUSINESS... I DO NOT CHOOSE THE MEANS IN ACCOMPLISHING AN OBJECTIVE
IT'S THE SAME FOR YOU, TOO, ISN'T IT... DOCTOR KOUDZUKI
WHETHER IT'S A DIRECT RELATIVE OF THE SHOGUN, OR THE DAUGHTER OF THE PRIME MINISTER...
EVEN IF IT'S SOMEONE'S BIOLOGICAL DAUGHTER... THEY ARE WILLING SACRIFICES
!?

THAT STUFF JUST NOW... WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT !?
WHAT IS IT ? SHIROGANE TAKERU
YOROI-SAN (GASP) !!
AND... WE ONLY GET RID OF THE UNFAVORABLE ONES, YOU KNOW ...
HOPELESS, AREN'T YOU... BUT, SURELY, WERE YOU EXPECTING TO GET AN ANSWER IF YOU ASKED ?
THE PRIME MINISTER'S DAUGHTER IS CLASS REP
THE DIRECT RELATIVE OF THE SHOGUN MUST BE MEIYA !!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY ... SACRIFICE !?
THAT STUFF ABOUT SOMEONE'S BIOLOGICAL DAUGHTER ...IS MIKOTO, RIGHT !?

RELAX... WE WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THESE SACRIFICES
WH-... WHAT DID YOU SAY ...!?
WE, INCLUDING DOCTOR KOUDZUKI AND I, FULLY INTEND TO UNDERSTAND THE METHOD AND THE TIMING...
THAT MAKES THE BEST USE OF THESE SACRIFICES
ALONG WITH THE BLOOD RELATIVE IN LINE TO INHERIT THE SHOGUNATE... THERE'S THE DAUGHTER OF TAMASE GENJOUSAI, THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE U.N.
AND, THE DAUGHTER OF SAKAKI KORECHIKA, THE PRIME MINISTER...
!?
FURTHERMORE, THERE'S THE DAUGHTER OF AYAMINE SHUUKAKU, THE FORMER LIEUTENANT-GENERAL OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY
AND LASTLY, THE DAUGHTER OF YOURS TRULY, YOROI SAKON, SECTION CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 2ND DIVISION
YOU DIDN'T THINK ALL THESE WONDERFUL, IMPRESSIVE MEMBERS WERE GATHERED HERE BY ACCIDENT, DID YOU ?
!!

THAT'S TRUE... WHEN I UNDERSTOOD THE FACTS IN THE "PREVIOUS WORLD," EVEN I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS BY ACCIDENT
I THOUGHT MIKOTO WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T HAVE SUCH A FATE ...!
YOU... WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU INTEND TO DO TO THEM
VICE-COMMANDER! IT APPEARS THE COUP-D'ETAT FORCE IS BROADCASTING A STATEMENT SHALL I PATCH IT THROUGH?
!
...PLEASE DO
I'M PUTTING IT UP ON THE MAIN SCREEN!
!?
BA
M

ZA!
ZA
ZA
THIS FACE... SOMEWHERE IN THE PAST, I'VE....
WHAT IS IT ...?
I DEAR CITIZENS OF THE NATION
I AM FROM THE IMPERIAL NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCE AND A MEMBER OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL DEFENSE REGIMENT ...MY NAME IS CAPTAIN SAGIRI NAOYA

PECTORAL

——HOURS BEFORE THE STATEMENT BROADCAST
IF OUR LINE OF DEFENSE IS UNDERMANNED... AND THERE'S AN ATTACK AT SADOGASHIMA... JAPAN WILL EASILY FALL !!
YOU BASTARDS... WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS FOR !?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
GYAH...
BA

HMM... THIS IS VERY TACTFUL
YOU DO REALIZE YOU ARE BEING MANIPULATED, DON'T YOU ?
IF I DO NOT TAKE ACTION HERE AND NOW...
THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN WILL HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO STAND ON
IT'S GOOD TO STAND UP IF YOU FALL, HOWEVER...
AND WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY
THERE WILL BE NO TELLING... WHAT YOU WILL FORCE UPON THE PEOPLE
FOR KEEPING HER HIGHNESS, THE SHOGUN, AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE, AND FOR HAVING HAD YOUR WAY WITH THE NATION ...!

IT WAS RUINED WHEN WE WERE CONTENT WITH CHARITY... AND WHEN WE FORGOT THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN
JAPAN DID NOT PERISH WHEN IT WAS INVADED BY THE BETA
YOU MUST BE RESOLUTE AND PREPARED
...YOU CAME HERE RESOLUTE AND PREPARED. DIDN'T YOU
KI
TO TARNISH THAT BLADE

episode:21

ÂGE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIGOBE / WWW.TONIGOBE.COM
PROOFREAD BY RCARRAY / MOULOUALTERNATIVENEXUS.BLOGSPOT.COM
THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF ITS WITHIN YOUR MEANS

AS YOU ALL KNOW, OUR EMPIRE HAS BECOME A FOREFRONT IN A BATTLE AGAINST INVADERS WHO HAVE TAKEN HOLD OF MANKIND'S SURVIVAL
OUR COMRADES RISK THEIR LIVES, DAY AND NIGHT, IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THESE INVADERS, IN ORDER TO PROTECT YOU, HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, AND ALL OF HUMANITY
IT IS A NOBLE DUTY THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT AND WE OFFICERS WERE ASSIGNED TO, AND WE MAY SAY, IT IS THE ONE AND ONLY MISSION WE SHOULD ACCOMPLISH
HOWEVER, CAN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IMPERIAL ARMY DECLARE
BRIEFING ROOM 5
IN REGARDS TO THE TENGEN-YAMA (MOUNT TENGEN) DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS THE OTHER DAY...
THE NEWS REPORTED FLOWERY RHETORIC ABOUT SOLDIERS VOLUNTEERING TO HELP, REGARDLESS OF THE DANGER... ABOUT THE PROTECTION OF THE LIVES AND PROPERTIES OF THE CITIZENS BEING A TOP PRIORITY...
!
...!
IN FACT, WHILE THE CITIZENS WERE ASLEEP, THEY WERE ATTACKED WITH TRANQUILIZING GUNS, ABDUCTED, AND TRANSFERRED TO REFUGEE CAMPS !!
HOWEVER, FOR THE REALITY OF THE OPERATION... SOLDIERS DISREGARDED THE WILL AND THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS WHO RETURNED
THAT THEY HAVE SUFFICIENTLY FULFILLED THEIR OBLIGATION !?

THIS EXAMPLE IS JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG
MEMBERS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND ARMY HAVE EXECUTED NUMEROUS MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE NAME OF HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, THE SHOGUN, GIVING PRIORITY TO THEIR OWN SAFETY AND BENEFIT
WHILE NEGLECTING THE PEOPLE (THE CITIZENRY) THEY ORIGINALLY SHOULD BE DEFENDING
FURTHERMORE, HAVING HAD THEIR WAY ALL THIS TIME, THESE DISLOYAL OFFICIALS, NEVER IMPARTED THESE FACTS TO HER HIGHNESS !!
INNOCENT CITIZENS ARE PRESENTLY TREATED LIKE CRIMINALS ...
IMPRISONED IN SUB-STANDARD TEMPORARY HOUSING THAT CAN BARELY WITHSTAND WIND AND RAIN...
AND PROVIDED WITH AN INSUFFICIENT DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES...
...THIS IS THE REALITY OF THE REFUGEE CAMPS !
AND TODAY, WE AROSE TO ACTION TO CORRECT THE COURSE OF THIS COUNTRY, JAPAN
WE, THE DEFENDERS OF PATRIOTISM, HAD RECENTLY GATHERED AT A NON-PARTISAN "STRATEGY SEMINAR"
...AS THE SITUATION STANDS NOW, BECAUSE THE PEOPLE AND THE SPIRIT OF OUR HIGHNESS ARE DIVIDED, I AM COMPELLED TO AFFIRM THAT JAPAN WILL SOON PERISH

WE HAVE NO INTENTIONS OF HARMING NEITHER HER HIGHNESS NOR YOU, THE CITIZENS
HOWEVER, WE WILL DESTROY THOSE WHO HAVE UNDERMINED JAPAN
AND WE WILL RUIN THOSE WHO ARE PARTY TO RUINING THIS NATION...
CADET SHIROGANE, REPORTING!
...
...
ARE YOU THROUGH WITH THE VICE-COMMANDER'S SPECIAL TASKS ALREADY?
SHIRO-GANE!
YES, MA'AM! BECAUSE OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY, I'M TEMPORARILY DISMISSED FROM THAT DUTY!
CADET SHIROGANE, NOW RETURNING TO MY HOME UNIT!
FWIP!
VERY GOOD... THEN, I WILL CONTINUE WITH THE BRIEFING
CURRENTLY, THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES HAVE ALMOST COMPLETELY GAINED CONTROL OVER THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL

NOT LONG AGO, IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, WHICH HAD CONTINUED TO RESIST TO THE VERY END, HAD SURRENDERED
IT IS UNCONFIRMED, BUT... THERE IS INFORMATION THAT A BATTLE HAS STARTED AROUND THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL CASTLE BETWEEN THE KONOEGUN (THE DEFENSE ARMY) AND THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES
IN ADDITION... THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS CONFIRMED THAT SEVERAL CABINET MEMBERS
INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER SAKAKI, HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED BY THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES...
A-...
ASSAS-SINATED ...!?

SAKAKI... I RESPECTFULLY GIVE YOU MY CONDOLENCES FOR THE DEATH OF YOUR FATHER
I AM TOLD THE RINGLEADER CAPTAIN SAGIRI MURDERED THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS CABINET MEMBERS BECAUSE HE CONSIDERED THEM TO BE TRAITORS...
HE WAS KILLED... WHAT THE HELL FOR (GASP) !?
WHAT THE HELL DOES HE MEAN BY "TRAITORS"... IS HE SAYING THAT CLASS REP'S OLD MAN WAS A BAD PERSON ...!?
...WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF DUTY NOW, SO...
...IT'S OKAY...
... ...

CENTRAL COMMAND
...YOU'RE TELLING ME YOU WON'T ACCEPT THE REINFORCEMENT TROOPS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE !?
...DOES THE UNITED NATIONS WANT TO RESTORE THE INFLUENTIAL VOICE OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE ASIAN REGION THAT MUCH ?
YOU MAY CALL IT REINFORCEMENT, BUT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN WANTING TO INTERVENE IN JAPAN'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS... ISN'T THAT THE CASE ?
WITH JAPAN AS THE CORNERSTONE OF THE ANTI-BETA FAR EAST DEFENSE... YOU DO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS IF JAPAN FALLS INTO A STATE OF INSTABILITY... DON'T YOU !
WE DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY MOMENT LEFT TO LOSE, DO WE ?
I DID NOT SAY THAT
I'M SAYING IT'S PREMATURE BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T ESTABLISHED AN OFFICIAL PROCEDURE
WHAT IF THE NEXT POLITICAL POWER AFTER THE COUP D'ETAT ...
DEMANDS THE CONFISCATION OF THIS YOKOHAMA BASE ...MANKIND'S LAST RESORT... WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO THEN !?
THE FATE OF THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE RESTS ON THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN ...
THIS YOKOHAMA BASE IS THE NUCLEUS OF THAT PLAN... WE CANNOT JEOPARDIZE THAT, NOW !

HOWEVER WHAT'S WITH THIS TIMING OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN FLEET BUILDING UP OFF THE GULF OF SAGAMI ?
IT'S AS IF THEY KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING
...IN REGARDS TO THE FLEET, I HEAR IT'S THEIR EMERGENCY EXCERCISES
IT'S CERTAINLY FORTUNATE... NO MATTER WHAT YOU CALL IT
UNDER-SECRETARY TAMASE... IF YOU, TOO, ARE JAPANESE...
YOU SHOULD KNOW, SHOULDN'T YOU... HOW SUCH A HARD-LINE STANCE OF THE U.S. MILITARY WILL CAUSE A BACKLASH IN THIS COUNTRY
...EVEN IF YOU TELL HIM THAT, COMMANDER, IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD
BECAUSE THEY'RE THE COUNTRY THAT UNILATERALLY BROKE THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY BY RUNNING AWAY, AS SOON AS THEY SAW SADOGASHIMA FALL
AT A TIME WHEN HALF OF JAPAN FELL INTO THE HANDS OF THE ENEMY, AND THE HIVE WAS BUILT
THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN ARE NOT LIKELY TO FORGET... WHAT THE UNITED STATES DID TO THIS COUNTRY

...!
FOR 3 YEARS NOW, THE NEXT ALTERNATIVE RESERVE PLAN HAS BEEN MOVING ALONG...
AND THE STRESS LEVEL FOR THE GROUP IMPLEMENTING THE NEXT PLAN HAS BEEN INCREASING EVERY DAY, TOO
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE U.S. MILITARY, HAVING PROPOSED A REVIEW OF THE ANTI-BETA STRATEGY, HAD ALREADY GROWN IMPATIENT, AND...
HAVING ABANDONED THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN, ITSELF, THEY HAVE BEEN WATCHING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE THEIR OWN COURSE OF ACTION
AS A PERSON WHO IS JAPANESE BEFORE BEING A STAFF MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS...
I ALSO WANT TO COMPLETE THE JAPAN-LED ALTERNATIVE 4 ...!
...SO, FOLLOWING THE UNDERSECRETARY'S EXAMPLE, AS A JAPANESE PERSON, I GET TO SAY THAT, TOO
... DOCTOR !!

AFTER ALL, WHAT THE UNITED STATES WANTS
IS TO SIMPLY AVOID HAVING THE FAR EAST DEFENSE LINE COLLAPSE AND THE U.S. MAINLAND BECOME A BATTLEFIELD, AM I RIGHT ?
PLEASE SET YOUR MIND AT EASE, UNDER-SECRETARY
BECAUSE WE WON'T ALLOW THE ACTIVATION OF ALTERNATIVE 5 NOR THE UNILATERAL ACTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES TO HAPPEN
...IF THE UNITED NATIONS BECOMES AN ORGANIZATION THAT DOES NOT ACCEPT THEIR INTENTIONS
THE UNITED STATES WILL DO IT INDEPENDENTLY, I GUESS...
A REVIEW OF THE STRATEGY ? IN SHORT, THEY WANT TO DOMINATE THE POSTWAR GLOBE BY FULLY USING THE G BOMBS ANYWHERE BUT THE MAINLAND
...
...
THEIR OWN COUNTRY IS UNHARMED, AS IT IS... ISN'T IT

...HIGHLY CONFIDENT IN YOURSELF, AREN'T YOU
YOU HAVEN'T PUT OUT ANY CONCRETE RESULTS, AND YET, WHAT MAKES YOU GO SO FAR TO SAY THAT...
I'LL LET YOU DECIDE WHETHER TO TAKE IT AS A BLUFF OR NOT
I'LL BE BACK AGAIN SHORTLY... LATER ON
.....I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE FOR NOW, I GUESS
BASHUK
...THAT WAS A SURPRISINGLY BRAVE THING TO SAY TO YOUR OPPONENT, THE UNDERSECRETARY, WASN'T IT
THAT'S WHY I'D SAY IT'S BEEN GOING WELL RECENTLY... FOR THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN

...I WONDER, WEREN'T YOU TOLD TO STAY WITHIN YOUR BOUNDS?
I'M CONCERNED THAT A USEFUL PAWN CAN DISAPPEAR ON ACCOUNT OF OTHERS, BUT...
AREN'T YOU RELATIVELY ABLE TO CONSENT TO THAT ON YOUR OWN ACCOUNT?
OOH, I'M SCARED... YOU'RE HEARTLESS, AREN'T YOU... EVEN THOUGH I'M DOING MY UTMOST FOR YOUR SAKE, DOCTOR
PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY...
IT'S THANKS TO SHIROGANE TAKERU?
...WELL, I SUPPOSE I HAVE MY OWN WORK TO DO, TOO
I MUST RETURN IMMEDIATELY TO THE HARSH JOB OF A SALARIED EMPLOYEE
...IF YOU DO ULTIMATELY HANDLE THE MATTER I REQUESTED, I WON'T COMPLAIN
I ENTRUST YOUR JUDGEMENT
IN THIS SITUATION, THE CADET SQUADS WILL NOT LIKELY PARTICIPATE IN THE THEATER, HOWEVER...
THE POSSIBILITY OF A SORTIE IS NOT ZERO... AT THIS TIME, CREWS SHOULD ALREADY BE EXCHANGING THE EQUIPMENT IN YOUR FUSELAGES WITH ACTUAL COMBAT EQUIPMENT
EACH OF YOU, STAND BY IN READINESS! THAT IS ALL... DISMISSED!!
...SALUTE!!

.....THE FIRST ACTUAL COMBAT FOR US...
AND THAT MIGHT BE... AGAINST A HUMAN OPPONENT...
... CLASS REP !
SHIT... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACT AT TIMES LIKE THIS ...!
... ...
THANKS... BUT, PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
SAY... AND WHAT ABOUT YOU... SHOULDN'T WE HAVE A SUBSTITUTE A SQUAD LEADER AT LEAST FOR NOW ?
... !
...WHAT IS IT ?
AAH... ...THAT IS I'M SORRY... ABOUT YOUR OLD MAN
...WHAT'S WITH YOU... ...ARE YOU IMPLYING THAT I CAN'T PERFORM MY DUTY ? DON'T PATRONIZE ME
EARLIER, YOUR HANDS... THEY WERE SHAKING, WEREN'T THEY...
I CAN AT LEAST UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE NOT YOUR USUAL SELF, OKAY ?
... ...

...THAT'S WHY
I WAS ACTING AS USUAL, YOU KNOW ...
THAT'S FINE IF WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF DUTY ...BECAUSE IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR US TO ELIMINATE OUR PERSONAL FEELINGS
BUT, WE'RE ON STANDBY, NOW... EVEN IF OUR (THE CADET SQUADS) TURN COMES AROUND, I THINK IT TAKES SOME TIME
YOU DON'T NEED TO FORCIBLY REPRESS YOUR FEELINGS AT A TIME LIKE THIS, DO YOU ...?
... ...
.....ARE YOU ALWAYS SO DIFFERENT ?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING... YOU'RE THE SELF-CONCIOUS ONE, DON'T YOU THINK ?
...SO IT SEEMS, HUH...
スッ
SUTTO
... ...
DESPITE THIS, IT'S LIKE I DIDN'T THINK I'D BE AFFECTED BY THE SHOCK...

I DON'T REMEMBER... PERHAPS THE LAST TIME WAS BEFORE I VOLUNTEERED
...IS THAT SO
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE...?
BECAUSE HE WAS ALWAYS DISTANT, AND... WE HARDLY EVER MET
SHIROGANE ...
...YOU KNOW...
EVERYONE IS WORRIED, TOO, NO DOUBT, RIGHT?
BUT, WITH OR WITHOUT OUR USUAL NON-INTERFERENCE POLICY, THE FACT IS, WE WON'T SAY ANYTHING
AS A WAY TO MAKE THINGS EASIER AROUND ME, I'VE BEEN TOLD, IT'S HARD WHEN IT'S PAINFUL ... IT'S THE OPPOSITE, ISN'T IT

...
...
EVEN MITSURUGI... MUST BE VERY WORRIED ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION
I WONDER, DOES SHE UNDERSTAND ...THE REASON ?
YEAH... BUT SHE DOESN'T LET IT SHOW, EITHER
THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT TO ADD AN EXTRA BURDEN TO HER
...OF COURSE I STILL DO
I'M FINE
...ARE YOU OKAY ?
THEREFORE, NO ONE SHOULD WORRY ABOUT ME ANYMORE ...
CLASS REP...
SO, DON'T WORRY... I'LL PROVE I CAN DO JUST FINE
THAT WAY, I'LL BE DISTRACTED FROM SORROW, TOO
...
...

WELL...
I DON'T THINK IT WILL BE OUR SQUAD'S TURN, THIS TIME, HUH
...
...
THAT'S FINE, IF THAT'S THE CASE, BUT...

...UNDER THIS SITUATION WITH THE INTERNAL CONFLICT
YOU MEAN, THE JAPANESE PEOPLE STILL DO NOT HAVE A SENSE OF THE IMPENDING DANGER THE HIVE IS PRODUCING IN FRONT OF THEM ?
THEY HAVE TOO MUCH OPTIMISM
I UNDERSTAND THEY'RE INSISTING... IT'S FOR THE SAKE OF THE REFUGEES

...
...
LIEUTENANT (2ND LIEUTENANT) THESLEFF, YOU CAME FROM A REFUGEE CAMP, DIDN'T YOU
BUT IF THE TERRORISTS GO TOO FAR, THEY WILL ONLY INVITE CONFUSION TO THE WORLD... THE SAME AS THE RLF (THE REFUGEE LIBERATION FRONT) AND OTHERS
...
...
THIS IS SUCH A FARCE... I WANT TO MAKE IT END QUICKLY
...I WOULD THINK SO...
IN THIS PRESENT WORLD
THERE'S NO ROOM FOR HUMANS TO BE FIGHTING EACH OTHER

ROAR
COMMAND HAD DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE UNITED STATES ARMY ...IN QUITE A HURRY, HUH
KLAK
IT SEEMS THE UNDERSECRETARY HAD OBTAINED THE APPROVAL OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, BUT... IT'S TOO SOON TO USE THEM
KLAK
...MEANING, IT WAS SOME SORT OF PLOT FROM THE START...
KLAK

GOOD GRIEF... IF THEY'RE ABLE TO DO WHATEVER THEY PLEASE WITHIN THIS BASE, IT WOULD BE UNBEARABLE
APART FROM THAT, YOU'RE CERTAIN YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORY ABOUT THIS INCIDENT, IS IT ?
YES, MA'AM ...AS FAR AS I RECALL, THE LAST THING THAT TOOK PLACE WAS THE ACTIVATION OF ALTERNATIVE 5 ON DECEMBER 25TH
SFX: IA! = 1) STRONG MOVEMENT; BUSTLING. 2) WHITE NOISE; RUSTLING.
CONVENIENT ...?
SHE'S SAYS THAT THIS STUFF IS HAPPENING, AND YET...
DOES SENSEI INTEND TO DO SOMETHING ?
THIS IS WONDERFUL... SURELY IT'S EVIDENCE THAT THE FUTURE IS CHANGING
WHAT'S MORE, THIS SITUATION... IS CONVENIENT FOR US
... ...
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, YOU KNOW

episode:22

ÂGE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIOOBE / WWW.TONIOOBE.COM
PROOFREAD BY ACROBAT / MUVLUVALTERNATIVENEXUS.BLOGSPOT.COM
THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF ITS WITHIN YOUR MEANS.

GA-
CHUNK
UWAH! WHAT A TERRIBLE SMELL...
IF I WAS DOING THE SEATING ADJUSTMENTS WITH STUFF LIKE THIS, I'D SUFFOCATE, Y'KNOW!
THEY'RE BLOCKING CONSPICUOUS MARKINGS... I HEARD THEY'RE COATING IT FOR ACTUAL COMBAT
...
...
THAT MEANS, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE WE'LL HAVE A SORTIE...
...ACTUAL COMBAT
...IS IT

LOAD ALL UNITS LIVE AMMUNITION ! THE ORDNANCE IS C !!
IT'S C ! IT'S THE NEXT CONTAINER !
O/ ! HOW ABOUT THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ORDNANCE ?
LIVE AMMUNITION ...
WE, WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINING TO FIGHT AGAINST THE BETA...
THAT... IS WHAT WE'LL BE SHOOTING AGAINST HUMAN OPPONENTS, IS IT...
TAMA ? WHAT'S WRONG... YOU'RE ALL PANICKY
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN ?
OWW OWW ...!
E-... EVERYONE, THIS IS SERI-.... (GASP)
AUH
TOMAT, PUT—M
EH !?
THE IMPERIAL ARMY HAS SURROUNDED THE BASE ...!
THI-... TH-TH-TH-THIS IS SERIOUS !

WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS ...!?
WHA- ...
THIS IS STUPID ...!
IF THEY HAVE TIME TO DISPATCH TROOPS TO A PLACE LIKE THIS, WHY DON'T THEY GO OVER TO SUPPRESS THE COUP D'ETAT!!
THE PROBLEM ISN'T LIKE THAT
THE U.S. MILITARY HAVE BEEN STATIONING THEMSELVES IN THIS BASE, ALREADY...
I'M TELLING YOU, THAT IS THE PROPER REACTION TO THE SITUATION
ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE A UNITED NATIONS MILITARY BASE, ARMED FORCES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES HAVE LANDED WITHOUT PERMISSION
THIS MAY BE PROPER MEASURES FOR A SOVEREIGN NATION
WE'RE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED, AREN'T WE...
IT WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF IT WERE THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES, BUT WHY IS THE IMPERIAL ARMY HERE...!?
IS THIS THE TIME AND PLACE TO BE DOING STUFF LIKE THIS !?
THIS IS WHY BETAs ARE DOING IN HUMAN-KIND JUST AS THEY PLEASE !!

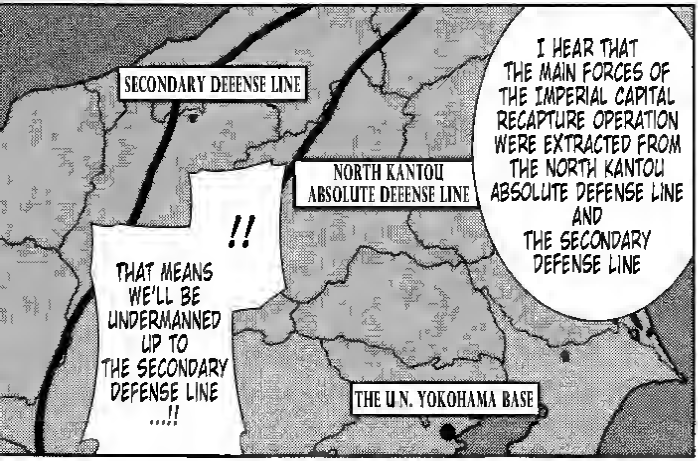
IS THERE SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN DEFEATING THE BETA !?
...EVEN IF THEIR PURPOSE IS THE SAME
IF THEIR REGARDED VALUES ARE DIFFERENT, THEY MAY RUN A DIFFERENT COURSE
IT IS AS YOU SAY IT IS
...HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO A FACT IT'S NOT ONLY THAT
TSUKUYOMI-SA-...
LIEUTENANT (FIRST LIEUTENANT) ...!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN SUCH A PLACE (GASP) !?
WHY ARE YOU HERE (GASP) ...WHEN YOU KNOW HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS HAS A CRISIS !!
!?
MEIYA !?
TSUKU-YOMI (GASP) !?

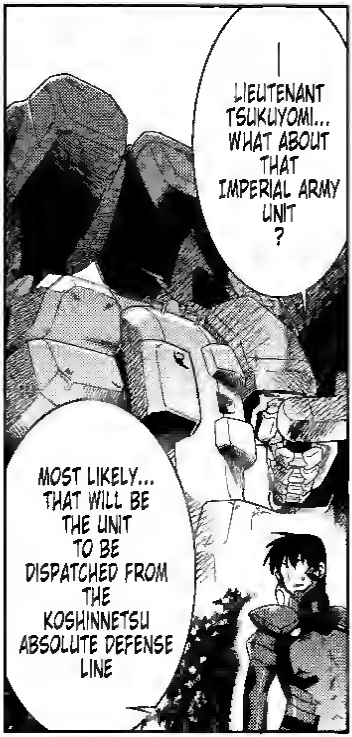
WE WOULD TAKE YOU AT YOUR WORD, HOWEVER
WE, THE GUARDS (THE BODYGUARDS) OF MEIYA-SAMA, HAVE AN OFFICIAL DUTY GIVEN TO US BY HER HIGHNESS
DO NOT SPEAK NONSENSE !!
HOW WILL YOU KNOW... WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL, NOW (GASP) !?
I AM WELL AWARE OF THE CIRCUM-STANCES HERE
SINCE THAT IS THE CASE
I CANNOT LEAVE YOUR SIDE MEIYA-SAMA
YOU... DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE MEANING TO WHAT YOU ARE SAYING !?
OI, MEIYA, STAND DOWN (GASP) !!
THIS GAL IS, LIKE, SO UPSET
NO MATTER HOW MUCH DANGER A RELATIVE MAY BE IN IS THE SHOGUN WORRIED THAT MUCH ...?
I AM FINE ... GO QUICKLY (GASP) !!
WON'T YOU PLEASE GO (GASP) !!
... ...

...I CANNOT
NO MATTER WHAT MEIYA-SAMA'S ORDERS MAY BE, THAT IS ONE I CANNOT OBEY
...!
YOUuu (GASP) ...!
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, MEIYA-SAMA !
TSUKUYOMI-SAMA ALSO HAS THE SAME FEELINGS OF CONCERN FOR BOTH HER HIGHNESS AND FOR YOU...
NO MATTER WHAT, YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO US, TOO, MEIYA-SAMA
SHOW SOME RESTRAINT, TOMOE !!!
THAT'S RIGHT ...TO US, IT'S A FEELING THAT TEARS US UP !
MEIYA-SAMA ...PLEASE CONSIDER TSUKUYOMI-SAMA'S FEELINGS !
HER HIGHNESS PERSONALLY GAVE US THIS POST TO BE MEIYA-SAMA'S ATTENDANTS
WHY SHOULD WE NEGLECT OUR POST !?
STOP IT !!!
...THAT'S ENOUGH, ALREADY
MEIYA-SAMA ...

IT IS INDISPUTABLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DISOBEY HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS' COMMAND AND SUCH
I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN YOU AT YOUR WORD, TOO, BUT...
...DO FORGIVE ME
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME
I WAS COMPLETELY UPSET, WASN'T I... PLEASE FORGIVE ME
STAND DOWN, EVERYONE
PLEASE DON'T BE UNREASONABLE... WE SHOULD BE SEEKING YOUR FORGIVENESS
YES, MA'AM ...
MEIYA-SAMA, PLEASE EXCUSE US
NO... IT'S OKAY
BUT APART FROM THAT
HOW IS —?
YES, MA'AM ...
LIEUTENANT (FIRST LIEUTENANT) TSUKUYOMI... IS HER HIGHNESS SAFE ?
...WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW IS THIS, RIGHT ?
—!
PRESENTLY, THE 2ND REGIMENT OF THE KONOEGUN (THE DEFENSE ARMY / THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) AND THE INSURGENTS ARE ANGRILY STARING DOWN AT EACH OTHER ACROSS THE MOAT
THE INSURGENTS TURNED AWAY FROM THE CASTLE AND HAVE NOT POINTED THEIR MUZZLES AT HER HIGHNESS, BUT...
IT'S LIKELY THAT THE NUMBER OF THEIR BLOCKADE TROOPS WILL GRADUALLY INCREASE

...SO THE FACT THAT A BATTLE BEGAN AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WAS MISINFORMATION WAS IT...
THEN... IS HER HIGHNESS SAFE ?
YES... THE 2ND REGIMENT, WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF GUARDING HER HIGHNESS ARE THE BEST AMONG THE ELITES ...PLEASE DO NOT WORRY


SECONDARY DEFENSE LINE
NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE
THE U.N. YOKOHAMA BASE
I HEAR THAT THE MAIN FORCES OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL RECAPTURE OPERATION WERE EXTRACTED FROM THE NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE AND THE SECONDARY DEFENSE LINE
!!
THAT MEANS WE'LL BE UNDERMANNED UP TO THE SECONDARY DEFENSE LINE ...!!


LIEUTENANT TSUKUYOMI... WHAT ABOUT THAT IMPERIAL ARMY UNIT ?
MOST LIKELY... THAT WILL BE THE UNIT TO BE DISPATCHED FROM THE KOSHINNETSU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE

AS IF THIS IS THE TIME AND PLACE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY !! ...THIS IS STUPID !
THOSE STUPID BASTARDS ...!

AT A TIME LIKE THIS, AT THE FAR EAST BATTLE FRONT... WE SHOULD SUPPRESS IT QUICKLY BY BORROWING THE POWER OF THE UNITED NATIONS !
IT IS STUPID, ISN'T IT... IT'S LIKE, A POWER STRUGGLE... FOR OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY...
...THAT WAS INEXCUSABLE
OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY IS NOT A STUPID THING

...
...
THEN, LET ME ASK YOU...
SUPPOSE THERE'S A SITUATION WHERE THE UNITED NATIONS' POLICY MARKEDLY INFLUENCES A SPECIFIC NATION'S WORLD STRATEGY, FOR EXAMPLE...
THIS IS... ABOUT THE UNITED STATES
AND EVEN IF IT WAS THAT COUNTRY'S CORE DOCTRINE THAT THE NATION DOES NOT RECOGNIZE DIVERSITY
WOULD YOUR SOLUTION BE THE SAME ?
...IT WOULD BE THE SAME
BECAUSE THE SURVIVAL OF ALL HUMANITY HAS TOP PRIORITY
THE UNILATERAL ANNULMENT BY THE U.S. OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY
THEIR WITH-DRAWAL FROM THE ASIAN REGION
AND, IN REGARDS TO OPERATION LUCIFER, THE UNANNOUNCED DEPLOYMENT OF G-BOMBS
IF YOU ARE A PERSON OF THIS COUNTRY
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND HOW HARMFUL IT IS TO ENTRUST OUR SOVEREIGNTY TO OTHERS WHO LOOK DOWN UPON IT

EVERYTHING IS DEPENDENT ON THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY
AS LONG AS THEY'RE QUARRELING OVER SUCH THINGS, HUMANS WILL NOT WIN AGAINST THE BETA Y'KNOW...
I'VE SEEN THE TRUTH ...!
STUFF LIKE THIS... THEY'RE JUST BOUND TO SABOTAGE EACH OTHER, AREN'T THEY !!
GRIL
APART FROM THE FACT THAT YOU AND YOUR UNIT ARE HERE... HOW WILL THE KONOEGUN (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) OPERATE ?
ABOUT THAT...
IT'S EXCELLENT THAT YOU'RE HIGHLY MOTIVATED... ISN'T IT
THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT, TSUKUYOMI
WHAT IS IT ? I SENSE YOU WANT TO IMPLY THAT TAKERU WILL LEAK OUT INFORMATION
...THIS PERSON'S SPEECH AND CONDUCT HAS A TENDENCY TO LEAN TOWARDS THE UNITED NATIONS... AND CONSEQUENTLY, THE UNITED STATES
...
...
YOU ARE THE IMPERIAL DEFENSE ARMY (THE TEIKOKU KONOEGUN)
ALTHOUGH WE ARE JAPANESE CITIZENS, WE COME UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS FORCES, NOW
TAKERU'S INTENTIONS ARE NOT TO BE MISTAKEN IN THAT CONTEXT
...THEN, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO ...

THE WORDS THAT THE RINGLEADER DECLARED ABOUT NOT INTENDING TO HARM HER HIGHNESS... FOR THE MOMENT, SEEMS TO HOLD TRUE
THEREFORE, THE IMPERIAL ARMY STILL HAS CONTROL
THE CHAMBERLAIN MINISTRY IS STILL IN GOOD HEALTH. GIVEN THAT THEY ARE WITHIN THE PREMISES OF THE IMPERIAL CASTLE
I SEE ...
NO, MA'AM... NOT AT THE PRESENT MOMENT
DAMAGE HASN'T FALLEN UPON THE CITIZENS (THE PEOPLE OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL) HAS IT ?
IT'S A PLACE OF HEADACHE AND FRUSTRATION ON THE SIDE OF THE COUP D'ETAT, ISN'T IT...
...THAT MEANS, THE HIGHLY ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AT IMPERIAL CAPITAL IS COMING FROM THE MINISTRY WITHIN THE CASTLE, I GUESS
HOWEVER, THE MILITARY UNITS SURROUNDING THE IMPERIAL CASTLE ARE BEING REINFORCED... AND THE SITUATION IS UNPREDICTABLE
HER HIGHNESS SHOULD TRY TO BESTOW A ROYAL COMMAND TO THE TROOPS ON OUR SIDE
BECAUSE THAT IS THEIR ONLY MEANS TO PROVE THEIR RIGHTEOUSNESS

INDEPENDENT GUARD UNITS, LIKE US, ARE BESTOWED THE DUTY TO PROTECT THE HEIRS OF THE SHOGUNATE
—THAT IS ALL
UNDERSTOOD ... MY THANKS TO YOU
YOU MAY LEAVE
FOR THE MOMENT, THERE ARE NO CONSPICUOUS DISTURBANCES
MOREOVER, EACH UNIT OF THE KONOEGUN (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) COMMAND POST, THAT ARE SCATTERED AROUND THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL, ARE IN THE COURSE OF GATHERING AT THE CASTLE
THERE IS ALSO THE DANGER THAT THE U.S. MILITARY WILL INTERVENE ...
HOWEVER, THE MORE TIME PASSES, THE MORE RESOLUTE THE IMPERIAL ARMY WILL BE
IT'S UNLIKELY SHE WILL PROMPTLY ISSUE A DIRECT COMMAND, DON'T YOU THINK
BUT... THE MURDER OF HER HIGHNESS'S CHIEF VASSEL MUST BE CLOUDING HER SPIRIT
...THAT WOULD BE THE WORST
THERE IS ENOUGH POTENTIAL FOR THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL TO BECOME A BATTLE-GROUND
THAT IS CORRECT

MEIYA-SAMA... JUST SO YOU DON'T WORRY
THE KONOEGUN (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) WILL PROTECT HER HIGHNESS WITHOUT EXCEPTION
SWISH
TAKERU... DO FORGIVE HER
THAT PERSON IS JUST TRYING TO BE FAITHFUL TO HER DUTIES
YEAH... DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
FROM LIEUTENANT (FIRST LIEUTENANT) TSUKUYOMI'S STANDPOINT, THAT'S THE NORM, I THINK
...IT HELPS WHEN I CAN GET YOU TO SAY SO
COME ON... LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE HANGAR SOON
AND FINISH OUR SEAT ADJUSTMENTS
...YEAH

FOR A GUY LIKE THAT TO BE IN MEIVA'S PROXIMITY... IT'S STRANGE ENOUGH THAT I GET OFF THIS EASILY, ISN'T IT...
BESIDES BEING A PERSON WHO SHOULD BE DEAD... SPEECH LEANING TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES
I AM FINE.. GO QUICKLY !
WON'T YOU PLEASE GO (PLEASE) !!
... ...
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN... MEIVA SO DESPERATE, ISN'T IT...
THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL CASTLE, THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES
LISTEN UP... NO MATTER WHAT YOU ENCOUNTER DO NOT DISCHARGE YOUR WEAPONS HERE
JUSTICE BELONGS TO US... BE PATIENT UNTIL WE RECEIVE HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS'S SANCTION...
WE GET IT, YOU KNOW... IF WE COME INTO COMBAT, HERE, EVEN IF IT'S WITH THE IMPERIAL GUARDS, HER HIGHNESS WILL PERSONALLY BE AT RISK
IF THAT HAPPENS... THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WILL BE IN CHAOS...

AYAMINE, THERE'S A MEETING AT THE HANGAR
IT'S ABOUT THE MANUAL ADJUSTMENT OF THE FCS (THE FIREARMS CONTROL SYSTEM)
...AYAMINE
...WHAT?
LIKE I SAID, THERE'S A MEETING AT THE HANGAR
...ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?
THAT LETTER... YOU'VE BEEN CARRYING IT?
IS SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GUY BOTHERING YOU?
... ...
I REGRET ... KNOWING HIM, YOU KNOW
episode:23
ARE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA
ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TUNGSTEN / PROOFREAD BY ACROBAT

I...
CAN RELAX
KNOWING
YOU HAVE
MY BACK,
RIGHT
?
HEY,
AYAMINE...
THAT'S
OBVIOUS
...
...
SHIROGANE,
WILL YOU
BELIEVE ME
IF I TELL YOU,
"YEAH"
?
...
...
...
...
EH...
OI,
THIS
IS...
Ayamine
Kei
IF I
READ THIS,
DOES IT
MEAN
THERE'S
A RESPONSE
?
...
...
READ
IT
HA
!?
BUT...
...IT'S
OKAY

IN ", SEASON WHEN THE DAY'S INCREASING COLD BECOMES STRONGER,
COME DECEMBER IS THE DAY FOR THE THREAT OF SNOW.
WHENEVER I PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE GARDEN, IT ONLY DEEPENS
MY SENSES FOR THE COLD PINE OF SENJOU.
WHEN I WRITE, WHEN I SPEAK, MY SINCERE WORDS ARE POWERLESS.
WITHOUT NOTICING WHETHER I CAN EVEN SEE WHAT COLOR IT IS,
I CANNOT EVEN UNTANGLE THE HAIR AT THE TOP OF MY HEAD
WITH A COMB.
BUT EVEN SO, IF IT'S YOU, WHO BECOMES SUPERIOR IN KEISHIN,
I BELIEVE THERE IS ALSO A REASON FOR THAT.

CONFUCIUS SAID, WINTER COMES AND WE SOON NOTICE
THE PINE AND CYPRESS TREES STILL HOLD THEIR LEAVES.
WHILE IT'S LATE FOR SEASON OF HAGI, IT'S NOT LIKE KAKU AND,
WE WILL MEET HERE CARRYING OUR INTENTIONS.
IT'S SAD FOR THE COUNTRY, SAD FOR THE PEOPLE, AND UNLESS
I DISPELL THE REGRETS OF THAT GENTLEMAN,
PLEASE WATCH THE SPIRIT THAT BURNS IN
RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION."

LET'S SEE...
"IN A SEASON WHEN THE DAY'S INCREASING COLD BECOMES STRONGER..."

*SEE NOTES AT END OF MANGA

GRAB
DA——!
IT'S NO USE!!
GRAB
I DON'T GET WHAT HE'S SAYING AT ALL!!

"THIS WILL BE MY LAST LETTER"
"I WISH YOU MUCH HAPPINESS AND MAY NOTHING TRAMPLE UPON YOUR FUTURE..."
"...TSUSHIMA SHUUJI"

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT
...
BUT
IT'S DISTURBING THAT THESE STRANGELY SUSPICIOUS WORDS ARE MIXED IN
...
...THE NAME AT THE END IS DIFFERENT
IS IT "HAGIHARU" !?
EH !? DID I READ IT WRONG !?
IT'S NOT "TSUSHIMA SHUUJI" !?
THAT PERSON'S NAME IS
SAGIRI
...
SAGIRI NAOYA
!?

SAGIRI... ...YOU SAY
ISN'T HE THE RINGLEADER OF THE COUP D'ETAT !!?
WHY IS A GUY LIKE THAT SENDING LETTERS TO YOU ...!?
LOOK AT... THE LATTER HALF OF THE LETTER
?
THE PHRASE "LIKE KAKU" 「闇の如く」 (kaku no gotoku) IS NOT HOW IT'S NORMALLY WRITTEN ...THERE'S A SUBSTITUTE CHARACTER (KANJI)
...SO THERE IS, IS THERE
"THAT GENTLEMAN" HE'S REFERING TO — IS MY FATHER
"THE SEASON OF HAGI," 「萩」 ..."LIKE KAKU" 「闇」 ...
HE MEANS, "AYAMINE SHUUKAKU"* (彩峰 萩闇)
...THAT IS MY FATHER'S NAME
...!
*SEE NOTES AT END OF MANGA
THAT'S THE NAME SECTION CHIEF YOROI MENTIONED
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD," HE WAS IMPRISONED FOR DESERTION...
YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, RIGHT ? "THE DISASTER OF THE GWANGJU OPERATION"... IT'S FAMOUS
...YEAH

THAT MAN REVERED TOU-SAN, AND TOU-SAN LOVED HIM, TOO
...BUT, BEFORE THE GWANGJU OPERATION, THAT MAN BECAME INJURED, AND WAS SENT BACK HOME...
I— THAT MAN WAS ALSO IN TOU-SAN'S (DAD'S) UNIT
HE WASN'T FORGIVEN FOR DESERTION ...
KAA-SAN (MOM) AND I... WERE DEPRIVED OF EVERYTHING BECAUSE OF THAT
... ...
HE'S TAKING A RISK TO THE POINT WHERE THE COUP D'ETAT MIGHT FAIL...
BUT... ISN'T IT EXTREMELY RISKY TO KEEP SENDING YOU LETTERS ?
... ...
BECAUSE THAT MAN... IS AN UPRIGHT AND HONEST MAN...
HE STILL BLAMES... HIMSELF FOR
BEING UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING BUT SILENTLY WATCH TOU-SAN BE CHARGED AND IMPRISONED FOR A CRIME

...I GET IT, NOW
IT'S MUCH SAFER IF IT GOES THROUGH THE GREATER EAST ASIAN ALLIED FORCES THAN TO DO IT DIRECTLY BETWEEN THE EMPIRE AND THE UNITED NATIONS ...
THESE PEOPLE BROUGHT ME THE LETTERS
PEOPLE FROM THE GREATER EAST ASIAN ALLIED FORCES, (AKA THE CONSOLIDATION OF SOUTH-EAST ASIAN NATIONS, OR COSEAN)
WHO TOLD ME THEY WERE HELPED THANKS TO TOU-SAN...
RECENTLY, THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO MEET ME
...
"...THE PEOPLE SHOULD DO WHAT THEY CAN FOR THE COUNTRY"
"AND THE COUNTRY SHOULD DO WHAT IT CAN FOR THE PEOPLE"
THESE PEOPLE TOLD ME THAT TOU-SAN WASN'T TO BLAME
HE GAVE PRIORITY TO THE EVACUATION AND THE PROTECTION OF THE CITIZENS AND HAD DECIDED TO IGNORE THE IMMEDIATE MARCHING ORDERS FROM HEADQUARTERS
THEY SAID

IS THAT ...?
...A MAXIM TOU-SAN OFTEN SAID
IT BECAME A DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT... I CAN STILL ABIDE BY THOSE WORDS
BUT, BETWEEN THE ARMY'S ANNOUNCEMENT OR THOSE PEOPLE
WHICH OF THEM IS TELLING ME THE TRUTH — I DON'T KNOW
SO... I'VE HAD ENOUGH ALREADY
I DON'T WANT LETTERS COMPOSED OF REGRETS
SO, I DIDN'T OPEN THEM... AND SO, I DIDN'T READ THEM

THE REGRET OF BEING UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING ...IS IT
I GET THE GENERAL IDEA... BUT
I DON'T GET THE REASON FOR SENDING YOU SUCH DANGEROUS LETTERS
THERE ISN'T ANYTHING ELSE, IS THERE ?
...
...
TOU-SAN
WANTED THAT MAN AND ME TO BE MARRIED...
...?
EH !?
MARRIED... SO... YOU MEAN, HE'S YOUR FIANCE' !?
HE WANTED MY CONSENT, I GUESS
OR MAYBE HE WANTED TO WARN ME NOT TO GET INVOLVED

ドッ…
THAT'S WHY... I SHOULD HAVE READ THEM SOONER
IF I HAD... THEN, AT LEAST, THEY MIGHT NOT HAVE DIED
THE PEOPLE... THAT MAN... DEALT WITH PERSONALLY ...!
I'M ALREADY... TOO LATE...
|... !

...
...
THIS IS EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW, SHIROGANE...
...THAT'S OBVIOUS
WILL YOU BELIEVE ME?
...NOW... EVEN IF I TELL YOU, "YEAH"...
THEN... KEEP YOUR WORD
BECAUSE I'M TELLING YOU, "YEAH"
EH?
ASIDE FROM TELLING ME... "KEEP QUIET AND BELIEVE ME"
...SHE MEANS ...DON'T ASK HER ANYTHING MORE THAN THIS...

I GOT IT, BUT
...
...
I ALSO WON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS MATTER
NOW, AT THIS LATE HOUR... EVEN IF I TOLD THEM THAT YOU WERE LIKE THIS... IT WOULD CAUSE EVEN MORE CONFUSION
IS THAT OKAY ? I'M AN ACCOMPLICE, TOO
...YEAH
HEY, AYAMINE ...
WHETHER IT'S CLASS REP'S OLD MAN OR CAPTAIN SAGIRI
...IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT
FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, EVEN IF YOU REPORTED THE LETTERS...
CHANCES ARE THE COUP D'ETAT WOULD HAVE OCCURRED WHILE THE LETTERS WERE INVESTIGATED FOR LEGITIMACY
EVEN CAPTAIN SAGIRI MUST HAVE BEEN COUNTING ON THAT SCENARIO, DON'T YA THINK
...I WONDER ABOUT THAT

SWISH
SINCE YOU BELIEVED IN ME ENOUGH TO TELL ME YOUR STORY
WHA-
THEN, I WILL PROTECT YOUR BACK WITHOUT HESITATION
...SO, DON'T WORRY ANYMORE
-AAP
SHIROGANE ...
-OOM
LET'S GET IT OVER WITH, QUICKLY
WE ONLY DO WHAT WE CAN DO
BOO-

A BATTLEFIELD ...!
CRACKLE
THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WILL BE...
ROAR
WE'RE UNDER ATTACK !
I REPEAT... WE'RE UNDER ATTACK (GASP) !
PERMISSION TO RETURN FIRE !!
CRACK
...YOU BONEHEAD
WHY DID YOU SHOOT (GASP) !?
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE !?

...
...
YOUR HIGHNESS !?
!
...STEP ASIDE
AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING ?
AAH... HOW DO YOU SAY
THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL IS...
I CANNOT DO THAT, YOUR HIGHNESS... YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WORRY... THE SENDAI PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY WORKING DILIGENTLY TO CONTROL THE SITUATION
IF ANYTHING BAD SHOULD PHYSICALLY HAPPEN TO YOU, THERE MAY BE UNPRECEDENTED CONFUSION
YOU PERSONALLY DO NOT NEED TO GO, DO YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS ?
...
...

...YOU SHOULD HAVE GIVEN THEM A STRICT ORDER TO AVOID COMBAT
IT'S LEGITIMATE SELF-DEFENSE
THEY'RE THE ONES THAT CAUSED THE SPARK !
THEN, IT'S BEST YOU HASTEN A CEASE FIRE COMMAND
IMMEDIATELY
...
...
HMPH
FOR A MERE FIGUREHEAD, I WISH SHE WOULD ACT LIKE ONE...

GIVEN THE URGENCY OF THE CURRENT SITUATION
COMMAND HAD DECIDED OUR 207 SQUAD WILL ALSO SORTIE AND BE ON REAR GUARD DUTY
BUT, A REGULAR UNIT, ALSO FROM THE YOKOHAMA BASE, IS ALREADY SORTIEING
IS THERE, LIKE, SOME SIGNIFICANCE FOR A CADET SQUAD TO HASTILY HEAD OVER TO A SITUATION LIKE THIS ...?
OUR AREA OF OPERATION IS ASHINOKO*, (LAKE ASHI) THE SOUTHEAST BANK REGION
OUR ASSIGNMENT DETAIL IS TO GUARD THE TOUGASHIMA FORTRESS, WHICH IS THE BRANCH CASTLE OF THE SHOGUNATE FAMILY
THIS SITUATION IS CONVENIENT FOR US
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, YOU KNOW
... ... WE'RE FINALLY GOING ON A SORTIE, TOO, ARE WE...
DON'T TELL ME, YUUKO-SENSEI INSTIGATED THIS, TOO ...?
EVERYONE, LISTEN UP

*ALSO KNOWN AS: ASHINOKO LAKE OR HAKONE LAKE

NOT LONG AGO, A BATTLE BEGAN AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
!!
THOSE IDIOTS (ON BOTH SIDES) ...THEY JUST HAD TO DO IT !!
IT'S UNCONFIRMED, BUT IT SEEMS IT BEGAN WHEN ONE OF THE INFANTRY UNITS THAT SURROUNDED THE IMPERIAL CASTLE FIRED AT A KONOEGUN (A DEFENSE ARMY) UNIT
...SUBSEQUENTLY, THE 2ND REGIMENT OF THE KONOEGUN RETURNED FIRE WITH FULL FORCE
CAPTAIN SAGIRI HAD ISSUED A CEASE FIRE DECLARATION, BUT THE CHAOS REMAINS UNSETTLED
...FURTHERMORE, THE 1ST SENJUTSUKI ARMOR BATTALION THAT ADVANCED FROM THE YOKOHAMA BASE, IS CARRYING OUT AN AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT AT THE SHINAGAWA WHARF, ALONG WITH THE U.S. ARMY'S 117TH SENJUTSUKI ARMOR BATTALION... (117TH TACTICAL ARMOR BATTALION)
STUPID BASTARDS... THIS IS THE WORST !!
WHAT IS THAT SAGIRI GUY DOING !? CAN'T HE CONTROL HIS OWN TROOPS !!?

#11
...ALSO, A SUBJUGATION UNIT OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY BEGAN AN INVASION OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL FROM THE SAITAMA PREFECTURAL BORDER...
JUST BECAUSE OF ONE GUY... I BET THIS IS HAPPENING JUST BECAUSE ONE GUY WASN'T ABLE TO HANDLE THE PRESSURE ...!
IF HE THOUGHT ABOUT THE SHOGUN AND THE CITIZENS... COULD HE NOT AT LEAST CONTROL HIMSELF !?
IT FINALLY STARTED TO FALL, HUH...
SO THIS IS... THE TOUGASHIMA FORTRESS, IS IT...

...
...
SHE'S TOTALLY DISTRACTED, ISN'T SHE... THAT'S UNDERSTANDABLE, I GUESS...
...YEAH
...HEY, MEIYA?
I GUESS BECAUSE THE ALTITUDE IS HIGHER OVER HERE THAN IN YOKOHAMA... THE SNOW FALLS MUCH SOONER, DOESN'T IT
GOOD GRIEF... WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF AN OPERATION
WHAT ON EARTH IS IT?
!
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU
MAY I FOR JUST A BIT?
THIS IS A PRIVATE LINE YOU'RE PURPOSELY USI-...!
!
...!
YOU.. CAN UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS OF THOSE GUYS WHO ARE STANDING UP AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, CAN'T YOU?
...THIS IS JUST MY SELFISH IMAGINATION, BUT
...
...
...IS THE SAME IN PRINCIPLE AS THE STUFF YOU SAID AT THE PX
BECAUSE THE STUFF THAT CAPTAIN SAGIRI SAID IN HIS DECLARATION
...WHY DO YOU THINK SO

IT'S THE PEOPLE WHO I WANT TO PROTECT
THE SOUL AND THE WILL OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE
BECAUSE, WITHOUT THE PEOPLE, THERE IS NO COUNTRY
BUT, I WAS GIVEN A CERTAIN OPPORTUNITY, AND I'VE GROWN TO UNDERSTAND HER VERY MUCH
WAY BACK WHEN, I WASN'T ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THIS GAL WHO EXPRESSED SENTIMENTS LIKE THAT
THE SHORT ANSWER IS... ...I CAN UNDERSTAND THEIR FEELINGS
...I SEE
TAKERU
YOU DO REALIZE... HOW LONG THE BATTLE BETWEEN HUMANS AND THE BETA HAS BEEN GOING ON
...ABOUT 25 YEARS OR MORE, ISN'T IT
STILL... I DON'T GET... THIS FIGHTING AMONG FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS.. AT AN IMPORTANT TIME LIKE THIS
WHEN THE FATE OF HUMANITY IS HANGING BY A THREAD
... ...

EVERYONE IS THE SAME FOR WISHING THE FIGHTING TO END
HOWEVER, REALITY IS DIFFERENT... NO MATTER HOW LONG IT'S BEEN, THE WAR SITUATION HAS NOT IMPROVED FOR THE BETTER
AND THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE CITIZENS CONTINUE TO WORSEN
FOR SOMEONE'S TOMORROW SOMEWHERE, IN ORDER TO PROTECT A COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN...
A COUNTRY THAT IS IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE
THESE PEOPLE, ALONE, ARE WILLING TO MAKE THE SACRIFICE
...AND SO ARE YOU... I SUPPOSE
TO THIS DAY, THE CITIZENS CAN'T EVEN SEE AN EXIT
AND YET, THEY SIMPLY DO NOT LAMENT OVER THEIR PRESENT SITUATION
THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO INTEND TO CHANGE THINGS WITH THEIR OWN POWER
THAT'S TRUE...
LIFE AS SUCH... DESERVES NO REGRETS

IT DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE A DEATH WISH, THOUGH...
...I'M RELIEVED TO HEAR THAT, Y'KNOW
THAT TIME WHEN THE BETA INVADED THE MAINLAND...
WHEN THE COUNTRY LOST MANY LIVES, MORE THAN HALF THE POPULATION ...
EVEN YOU UNDERSTAND... WHAT ENCOURAGED THE JAPANESE PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION OF AN UNPRECEDENTED NATIONAL CRISIS
IT'S BECAUSE THE COUNTRY, AND ALONG WITH THE COUNTRY, A PERSON...
AND BECAUSE THE SHOGUNATE FAMILY EXISTS ALONG WITH THE NATION
WAS THE FOUNDATION OF THOSE HEARTS AND MINDS
WERE IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THE PEOPLE
THUMP
THUMP

WELL NOW... WASN'T THIS EASTER ISLAND SOUVINIR USEFUL
YOROI !!
I'M SORRY FOR BEING LATE, YOUR HIGHNESS
I CAME TO PICK YOU UP
-BA
M
HOW IS THAT TASK THAT I PREVIOUSLY ORDERED...?
...I DISPERSED DECOYS AT THE OTHER ROUTES TO COINCIDE WITH OUR ESCAPE FROM THE PALACE
BECAUSE OF THAT, ANY POTENTIAL BATTLES ARE BOUND TO GO THERE

RELAX... IF WE CAN MAKE IT BY THE QUARTER HOUR, WE'LL HAVE IT SO WE CAN TRANSMIT FROM A CERTAIN SOURCE
BUT, ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT ?
THEN, LET'S GO, YOUR HIGHNESS
IT DOESN'T MATTER
WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
FOR THE SAKE OF STOPPING THIS CONFLICT
カーン
カーン
カーン

SINCE THE STRENGTHENING OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED NATIONS BECAME JAPAN'S STANDARD POLICY
IT'S BEEN ACCEPTED THAT THE MEANS SURPASS THE GOAL
AND BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MILITARY SEEM TO HAVE LOST SIGHT OF THEIR ORIGINAL VALUES...
...
...
THE FACT THAT THE BETA DEFEATED US
...THAT WE HAD TO ASK FOR AND BORROW THE ASSISTANCE AND POWER OF THE U.N. FORCES FOR THE MAINLAND RECAPTURE (THE HONSHUU RECAPTURE OPERATION) ...IT CHANGED THE GOVERNMENT
...
THOSE PEOPLE WHO THINK OF NOTHING BUT THEIR OWN CONVENIENCE AND INTEREST ARE RUINING THE COUNTRY
THE GOVERNMENT NEGLECTED THE PEOPLE AND LOOKED DOWN UPON THE SHOGUNATE FAMILY AS PUPPETS
SO, YOU'RE SAYING THAT STRENGTHENING OUR TIES WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ...HAD RUINED JAPAN ?
AND SO, IT'S THE INSURGENTS' IDEA TO RESCUE THE PEOPLE... THE SHOGUNATE... AND THE COUNTRY
...I'M SAYING THAT THOSE WHO THOUGHT SO CAUSED THE COUP D'ETAT
PERHAPS

I DON'T GET IT ...WHY THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN EXTINCTION ISN'T THE FOREMOST GOAL
AM I UNABLE TO COMPREHEND IT BECAUSE I'M NOT A JAPANESE PERSON OF "THIS WORLD" ?
BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE THE STANDPOINT AS A JAPANESE, OR THE FEELINGS OF PATRIOTISM, OR THINGS LIKE THAT ...?
..BUT
IF MANKIND IS DEFEATED... IF WE'RE ANNIHILATED, IT'S THE END OF EVERYTHING
.. AM I WRONG ?
...I KNOW THAT
NOW, THE JAPANESE PEOPLE ARE FORCING AN EXTRA BURDEN ON THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE BY CAUSING AN UPROAR THAT ONLY CONCERNS JAPAN
...I DON'T BELIEVE EVEN HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS WOULD WISH FOR SUCH A THING
FOR THOSE GUYS WHO ROSE TO ACTION FOR THE SAKE OF REDRESSING THE COUNTRY, THEIR FEELINGS MAY BE LEGITIMATE
BUT, IS THAT A REASON TO MAKE THE WORLD
THE PEOPLE OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES CONSENT !?
PLEASE, STOP IT, TAKERU... ENOUGH ALREADY !

I'M ... WORRIED, TOO
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I DON'T KNOW... WHAT'S RIGHT...
... ...
...IT'S NOT MY INTENTION TO CRITICIZE YOU
BUT, I WILL AT LEAST SAY THIS
HOWEVER I MAY APPEAR TO YOU... I WILL GIVE MANKIND'S VICTORY TOP PRIORITY
...AND I WILL ABSOLUTELY SAVE JAPAN
YOU'RE...
THAT'S ALL
MY BAD FOR MAKING A COMPARISON ...I'LL SWITCH OFF THE LINE
YOU'RE... ...STRONG, AREN'T YOU

...
...?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...? YOU'RE NOT THE USUAL MEIYA, IT SEEMS
...
...YOU'RE CURRENTLY ATTACHING TOO MUCH OF YOUR OWN FEELINGS FOR THE SHOGUN AND THE NATION
ONTO THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES
IT'S BECOME A DILEMMA BETWEEN THOSE SENTIMENTS AND YOUR OWN STANDPOINT ...
...
YOU'RE WRONG... ABOUT THAT
...MEIYA ?
EH ?
THAT'S ... NOT ME
AH ! O! ...!
FWOO
DOSH

THEN, AT LEAST
I WANT TO BE THERE WITH HER IN SPIRIT
...
...OUR LONG TALK WENT ON TOO LONG, HASN'T IT...
...
...
WHO'S THAT ? IS IT... CLASS REP ?
...?
FOR MY ... WEAKNESS ...
DO FORGIVE ME ...TAKERU
...
...
THAT'S NOT... ME
HOWEVER
WHEN I THINK OF THE ONE HAVING THESE HARDSHIPS...

PLEASE WAKE UP, TAKERU-SAN!
...IT'S ...TIME...
...WAKE ...-KERU-SAN...
...N
I STILL FEEL A BIT SLUGGISH..
YOU STILL HAVE ANOTHER 15 MINUTES BEFORE WE SWITCH
WHY DON'T YOU GO OUTSIDE FOR SOME FRESH AIR?
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA... WELL THEN, I'LL LEAVE YOU TO BACK ME UP
N ...
AAH... TIME TO ALTERNATE, IS IT
ARE YOU FULLY AWAKE?
THE TOUGASHIMA BRANCH CASTLE...
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THE SHOGUN'S VILLA ...IS IT
THE STUFF I DON'T HAVE... THE STUFF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD POSSESS, I GUESS...

DO FORGIVE ME, TAKERU... FOR MY WEAKNESS...
MEIYA'S WEAK ...AND I'M STRONG ...?
YOU'RE WRONG... IF I SEEM STRONG TO YOU...
IT'S BECAUSE I SAW THE END OF "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" ...IT'S BECAUSE, IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD," YOU SHOWED ME YOUR WILL
...
...
THAT GAL... SHE'S NOT AWARE OF... HER OWN STRENGTH AND SUCH, ISN'T SHE
SNAP...
...!?
NO... FOR A PLACE LIKE THIS, EVEN THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE WOULD...
THE SOUND OF A TWIG SNAPPING ...IS IT THE ENEMY (GASP) !?
THAT'S RIGHT... IF I LINK UP TO THE NIGHT VISION MONITOR OF THE FUBUKI...

...ALL RIGHT
THEY'RE UNARMED... ARE THEY LAWLESS CITIZENS RETURNING ?
...TWO PEOPLE...
...HALT (GASP) !!
!?
PLACE BOTH HANDS BEHIND YOUR HEAD, AND MOVE SLOWLY TOWARDS ME
WHA-
WHAT ARE YOU POINTING A GUN AT US FOR !!
STOP IT
THE BLACK REINFORCED EQUIPMENT IS PROOF OF THE U.N. FORCE'S EISHI (GUARDSMEN) ...PERHAPS, THIS PERSON IS
ME-...
MEI-...YA...!?

episode:24

ACE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIOBE / WWW.TONIOBE.COM
PROOFREAD BY ACKDANY / NOVELVALTERNATIVEVENGEANCE.BLOGSPOT.COM
THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF ITS WITHIN YOUR MEANS

ME-
...

MEI-
...
YA
...!?

...
...
?

MEIYA
...?

WOOSH

...TAKERU-SAN, BE CAREFUL (GASP) !!

I
...
(GASP)
!?

...SECTION CHIEF YOROI !?

WHY ARE YOU AT A PLACE LIKE THIS !?

...SURELY, THE FACT THAT YOU'RE ALL HERE... (AT THIS PLACE)

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD SAY, MY GOODNESS, IT'S JUST AS I WOULD EXPECT OF DR. KOUDZUKI

WHAT SORT OF SITUATION IS THIS ?
WHO IN THE WORLD IS THIS PER-
HOU... YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW THIS LADY ?
EH ?
06 TO 05 ...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY... I CAN VOUCH FOR THESE PEOPLE
..ROGER
THIS HAPPENS TO BE HER HIGHNESS, KOUBUIN YUUHI ! MY RUDE FELLOW !!!
...KOUBUIN ...YUUHI ...?
SHIROGANE TAKERU — ARE YOU ADDRESSING ...
THE JAPANESE EMPIRE'S PLENIPOTENTIARY REPRESENTATIVE OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS... THE SEII DAISHOGUN (HER RULING MAJESTY, THE SUPREME GENERAL) ...BY HER FIRST NAME ?
WHA- ...!?
THIS... GIRL... WHO'S THE SPITTING IMAGE OF MEIYA.... IS...
— THE SHOGUN !?

AND HER HIGHNESS, THE SHOGUN, IS NO LONGER IN THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL !?
THERE WERE SEVERAL MOVEMENTS IN VARIOUS PLACES CONFIRMED
HEADING TOWARDS THE NAVAL BASE AND FORTRESS, USING THE UNDERGROUND PASSAGES FROM THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL CASTLE
HER HIGHNESS SEEMS TO HAVE ESCAPED FROM THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL BY SLIPPING AMONG THAT
(THOSE SEVERAL MOVEMENTS)
HAVE OUR TROOPS HEAD OVER IMMEDIATELY !!
WE ABSOLUTELY MUST NOT LET THE IMPERIAL ARMY AND THE KONOEGUN
MUCH LESS, THE UNITED NATIONS, GET A JUMP ON US !!
...
IT SEEMS THE INFORMATION FROM OUR MAN IN QUESTION WAS CREDIBLE ENOUGH
...BEING AT WAR, WE SHOULD TAKE THAT EXAMPLE
I GUESS...
HA ?
THIS IS LIKE THE OPPOSITE OF HELPING US... WE, WHO SHOULD PROTECT HER HIGHNESS
HOW DISAPPOINTING
BECAUSE OF THIS, WE CAN'T HELP BUT LEAVE THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
SO, HER HIGHNESS WAS HER OWN DECOY... AFTER ALL ...?

WE ARE BLESSED
AS LONG AS HER HIGHNESS IS SAFE, THE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY (JAPAN) IS BRIGHT
THERE WILL BE HESITATION FOR WHAT WILL BECOME THE FOUNDATION OF THAT
THE DESTINATION IS
WE WILL GO MEET WITH HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS!

IT'S OKAY
I COMMANDED IT
SHIROGANE, IS IT
EH !?
...YOU'RE TOO LOUD, AREN'T YOU... SHIROGANE TAKERU

...YOU LEAKED OUT INFORMATION ABOUT HER HIGHNESS' ESCAPE !?

THAT WOULD BE THE NATURAL COURSE
AND THAT IS THE OBJECTIVE, ISN'T IT
THEY WILL DEFINITELY COME AFTER YOU, NOW, Y'KNOW !?
EVEN SO, THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE WANTS YOUR HIGHNESS' SANCTION, RIGHT !?

IN FACT, HER HIGHNESS, HERSELF, VOLUNTEERED TO TAKE THE ROLE AS A DECOY IN ORDER TO TAKE THE WAR AWAY FROM THE CITIZENS OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
!!
IF WE DRAW THEM HERE, AN ENTIRE ARMY OF THE EMPIRE, THE KONOE, AND THE UNITED NATIONS WILL ARRIVE IN PURSUIT
...IF THAT HAPPENS, THE BATTLE AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WILL END, TOO
AM I WRONG ?

...BUT, IF THAT'S THE CASE
WHY DIDN'T HER HIGHNESS ORDER THE ENTIRE ARMY TO STOP THE BATTLE ?
SHE MOST CERTAINLY DID, OF COURSE
EH ? THEN, WHY...
YOU HAVEN'T FIXED YOUR BAD HABIT, HAVEN'T YOU... SHIROGANE TAKERU
DIDN'T THOSE GUYS, WHO LAMENTED OVER THE STATUS QUO AS SUCH, RISE IN OPPOSITION ?
...!
...
...
WHAT THE HELL... DOES IT MEAN THAT THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE IS MORE JUST ?
DOES IT MEAN THAT THERE'S SOME SORT OF MEANING TO... THIS CONFLICT ?
SMILE!
HOWEVER THERE ARE THOSE WHO WANT TO HAVE A CIVIL WAR IN JAPAN NO MATTER WHAT
A PERSON WHO SYMPATHIZED WITH THAT SENTIMENT SEEMS TO HAVE SLIPPED IN WITH THE INSURGENTS
EH !? ...YOU MEAN, THE INFANTRY UNIT THAT FIRED FIRST...
IT'S THAT SORT OF SITUATION ...YOU DO UNDERSTAND, RIGHT ? SHIROGANE TAKERU
...YES, SIR...

HA !?
I... I AM (GASP) !?
CHIEF (SECTION CHIEF) YOROI...! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING !?
YOU ARE TO TAKE HER HIGHNESS TO THE YOKOHAMA BASE
WELL THEN, SHIROGANE TAKERU
THA- THAT CERTAINLY MAY BE TRUE, BUT ...!!
IN THIS SITUATION, I THINK THAT WOULD BE A MUCH SAFER PLACE THAN ANYWHERE ELSE
IT'S POSSIBLE FOR HER HIGHNESS TO RIDE ALONG WITH YOU IN THE COCKPIT OF THE SENJUTSUKI, (THE TACTICAL MACHINE / TSF) RIGHT ?
EH !? HEY... SECTION CHIEF YOROI !?
HE'S TOTALLY GONNA PUSH THE SHOGUN UPON SOME GUY !?
SHIROGANE TAKERU.. I'LL ENTRUST HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS TO YOU
I HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL AND DO SOME WORK

YORO!... IT HAS BEEN A TRULY GREAT CAUSE, THUS FAR
I NO LONGER WANT TO HEAR NEWS ABOUT LOSING A RETAINER (A SUBJECT) ...PLEASE BE CAREFUL
THE PERSON WHO WAS ABLE TO KILL THE PERSON WHO KILLED... AND THE REASON WHY THEY ARE SUBJECTS (RETAINERS) ALIKE
PLUS, HOW YOUR HIGHNESS' SORROW IS... I KNOW NOT ONLY THESE THINGS, BUT...
I KNOW HOW THE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE UNHAPPY ABOUT THE DISORDER OF THE COUNTRY... I AM COMPELLED TO STAND UP SO THAT THEY WILL CORRECT THAT
THAT IS THE TRUTH OF THIS SITUATION
EVEN IF THEY CHOOSE THE WRONG PATH
AS LONG AS SUCH YOUTHS EXIST... THERE WILL STILL BE THOSE WHO JAPAN HASN'T DISCARDED, YET
JAPAN WILL WAKE UP ONCE AGAIN BY SQUEEZING OUT THE PUS HERE
I DO BELIEVE THAT

...I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU
!
...
...SECTION CHIEF YORO!
WHAT IS IT ?
THE U.S. MILITARY IS AT THE YOKOHAMA BASE
...IT'S OKAY, RIGHT ?
...I'M GOING FOR THAT REASON
KLOP!
!
THIS WAS COMPLETELY UNEXPECTED
...
IT'S NOT THAT WE WERE DEPLOYED HERE BECAUSE THE LOCATION WAS A LOW PRIORITY. INSTEAD, IT'S TOTALLY OPPOSITE, ISN'T IT?

THIS SITUATION IS CONVENIENT FOR US
YUUKO-SENSEI ...
WHAT IN THE WORLD DO YOU INTEND TO HAVE US DO ...!?
ISUMI !
I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S TIME TO CHECK-OUT ...
ARE YOU READY ?
THIS IS GETTING INTERESTING, HUH ...
IT'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR, VICE-COMMANDER
IF IT HAPPENS, OUR JOB AFTER THAT WILL BE
TO PREVENT OUR COLLEAGUES (THOSE OTHER GUYS) FROM GOING ON STAGE
...I'M COUNTING ON YOU, YOU KNOW
YES, MA'AM !

KASHIWAGI!!
IF YOU WANT TO GO TO THE OTHER SIDE, I REALLY WON'T STOP YOU. YOU KNOW?
...OH MY MY
THEY WERE BROUGHT OVER THERE, I GUESS
YOU CAN VOLUNTEER AS A ONE-MAN DIVERSION FOR THE SAKE OF HER HIGHNESS ...HOW DOES THAT SITUATION GRAB YOU?
AND YOU WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING THE LEADING ROLE, NOW AND THEN, WEREN'T YOU?
AH HA HA
GIVEN THAT I GET TOTALLY NERVOUS WHEN I'M IN FRONT OF GREAT PEOPLE ...I DECLINE
HM...
ROGER!!
WE'RE GONNA ROLL THE RED CARPET OUT ON THE RUNWAY SO THOSE ROOKIES CAN SAFELY MAKE IT TO THE STAGE!
WE'RE HEADING TO HAKONE!
WELL THEN, EVERYONE... THIS WILL BE AS CLOSE TO A PLEASANT VACATION AT A VILLA AS YOU WILL GET
THE HQ (THE FRONTLINE HEADQUARTERS) AT THE ODAWARA WEST INTERCHANGE MARK HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY SILENT, TOO
COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EMPIRE'S ATSUGI BASE HAS STOPPED APPROXIMATELY 10 MINUTES AGO

DA
IMPERIAL ARMY UNITS ARE ALREADY AT WAR WITH THE ENEMY AT MOUNT MYOUJINGATAKE
...THAT'S THE MOUNTAIN ON THE OTHER SIDE ISN'T IT !
FOR THE COUP D'ETAT UNITS TO ALREADY BE THAT FAR THAT SOON ...!
NOW THEN, I'LL GO OVER THE STRATEGY
MAP: IZU PENINSULA
E1
E2
IZU SKYLINE
UN 207sqd
THE ENEMY'S MAIN FORCE HAS CURRENTLY BRANCHED OFF INTO TWO GROUPS: E1, THE TOMEI EXPRESSWAY AUTOMATIC MILITARY ROAD MARK, AND E2, THE ODAWARA-ATSUGI ROAD MARK... AND THEY ARE IN THE COURSE OF ADVANCING

FROM THE ATAMI SHINDOU (THE ATAMI NEW ROAD) MARK, WE WILL ENTER THE IZU SKYLINE (THE IZU MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY) MARK, THEN HEAD SOUTH TOWARDS THE SHIRAHAMA COAST
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT THAT, DO WE...
IF WE GULLIBLY GO TOWARDS YOKOHAMA, WE'LL END UP CLASHING WITH THE ENEMY'S MAIN FORCE
...AND THEN WHAT WILL WE DO ?
MAP : IZU PENINSULA
MOST LIKELY, E1 WILL HEAD US OFF AT THE OLD MISHIMA-SHI (THE FORMER MISHIMA CITY) VIA THE ASHINOKO SKYLINE (LAKE ASHI SKYLINE) MARK IN ORDER TO BLOCK OUR PROGRESS WEST
E1
E2
IZU SKYLINE
UN 207sqd
AND E2 WILL HEAD SOUTH AT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 135 — AS IT IS, IT'S VERY LIKELY THEY HAVE THAT ASSURANCE IN MIND, HEADING TOWARDS THE COASTLINE
ALSO, AT THE SAME TIME, I EXPECT ANOTHER UNIT, E3, WILL BRANCH OFF FROM E2, IN ORDER TO BLOCK US FROM REVERSING COURSE, AND PURSUE US FROM THE REAR
LA
E1
E3
E2
KYLINE
UN 207sqd
...A PATTERN WHERE THEY BLOCK US ON THE LEFT, RIGHT, AND REAR, IS IT...

E1
E3
E2
YLINE
US 108wig
UN 207sqd
WE WILL CONTINUE HEADING FURTHER SOUTH, BUT.. FOR THE SITUATION WHERE WE HAVE AN E3
THE U.S ARMY'S 108TH SENJUTSUKI ARMORED BATTALION WILL CONVERGE WITH US TO SERVE AS A DIVERSION AND TO DESTROY THE E3 UNITS
GULP!
FROM THIS POINT, E1 WILL LIKELY COORDINATE WITH E2 TO OVERTAKE US AT THE OLD NAKAIZU-CHOU (NAKAIZU TOWN) FROM THE OLD MISHIMA-SHI
I EXPECT THEM TO TRY TO SIEGE AND ATTACK US FROM BOTH FLANKS
THIS HERE WILL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT FOR THE ENEMY
THE HIEKAWA TOLL GATE MARK
E1
E2
HIEKAWA
UN 207sqd

HERE, THE MOUNTAIN REGION IS EXTREMELY NARROW
THERE ARE NO OTHER POINTS THAN THIS WHERE THE ENEMY CAN PIN US DOWN
IF WE COME OUT FROM HERE AHEAD OF THEM, THIS OPERATION WILL BE A SUCCESS, ESSENTIALLY
...IN OTHER WORDS, SHE MEANS THAT IF WE DON'T BREAK THROUGH AHEAD OF THEM, WE'LL BE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED...
AS LONG AS THE SHOGUN IS HERE, THERE'S NO ROOM FOR A POORLY SET UP ATTACK, BUT...
IS THIS TRULY THE CASE ?
...IT'S A GRAVE SITUATION, HUH...
I HAVE CAUSED HARDSHIP... SIMPLY BECAUSE I AM FECKLESS
WHERE IS THE ASSURANCE THAT THE COUP D'ETAT IS A MONOLITH ?
...!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ! IT'LL BE FINE, Y'KNOW
IF SOMEONE LIKE THAT INFANTRY GUY CAN STILL LOSE TO PRESSURE
GWEVICH

IDIOT ...! A GIRL, WHOSE AGE IS NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM MINE, HAPPENS TO BE THE SHOGUN !
AND ON TOP OF THAT, SHE COMES SO FAR TO A PLACE LIKE THIS TO BE HER OWN DECOY !
I'M FEELING NERVOUS HERE, AND THEN I DO WHAT ! STAY SHARP, WILL YOU !!
SMACK!
SHIROGANE ?
I'M SORRY, YOU'RE HIGHNESS ... IT'S NOTHING
...THINGS MAY HAVE TURNED OUT THIS WAY BECAUSE I CHANGED THE FUTURE
BUT... I DON'T INTEND TO STOP THIS ! I CANNOT STOP THIS !!
WE WILL EXIT THE OLD SHIMODA-SHI, (THE OLD SHIMODA CITY) AS IS, AND RETURN TO THE YOKOHAMA BASE BY THE SEA ROUTE FROM THE SHIRAHAMA COAST
FURTHERMORE, THE KONOE'S (THE IMPERIAL GUARD'S) 19TH INDEPENDENT PLATOON WILL BE FORTIFYING THE REAR WITH HAMMERHEAD ONE (HAMMER BATTLE FORMATION ONE)
OUR ATTACK FORMATION IS ARROWHEAD TWO (WEDGE PATTERN TWO) FOCUSING ON 06

SHIROGANE
...YES, MA'AM
YOUR TOP PRIORITY OBJECTIVE OF THIS OPERATION IS TO SAFELY TAKE HER HIGHNESS KOUBUIN TO THE YOKOHAMA BASE
UNDERSTAND THAT... YOU WILL ACCOMPLISH THIS WITHOUT FAIL, NO MATTER WHAT SACRIFICE YOU MAKE !
...ROGER THAT !
TO TAKE PART IN THIS MISSION AS SOLDIERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE AND AS JAPANESE PEOPLE IS THE GREATEST HONOR FOR US
I EXPECT EACH OF YOU TO GIVE IT YOUR HARDEST AND UTMOST EFFORT ! ...THAT IS ALL !!
ALL UNITS OF THE 207TH SENJUTSUKI ARMORED SQUAD... MOVE OUT !!
ROGER !!

I WILL SURVIVE WITHOUT FAIL !
I WILL SURVIVE, I WILL SAVE "THIS WORLD"... AND I WILL RETURN TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !!
...ABSO-LUTELY !!
604C, HERE !
WE ARE CURRENTLY FIGHTING AGAINST ENEMY FORCES... REINFORCEMENTS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY !!
POW
BOOM
SHIT (GASP) ...
THEIR FUSELAGES SHOULD BE SIMILAR TO OURS, AND YET... WHAT SORT OF SHIT IS THIS (GASP) !?

▲TSF (SENJUTSUKI) ENSIGNIA (REGGIE, 戦士)= PATRIOT UPRIGHT MAN HERO

ALL UNITS
REMAIN CALM AND MAINTAIN YOUR FORMATION (THE BATTLE FORMATION)
DON'T PANIC
THE KONOE (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS) ARE FORTIFYING THE REAR
SHIT
THE IMPERIAL ARMY ONLY HAS SO MUCH, AND IN NO TIME AT ALL
SHI-
DON'T BE ABSURD
HER HIGHNESS IS STRAPPED IN WITH A SIMPLE BELT, OKAY
ANYTHING MORE THAN THIS IS PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE
I'LL BE DOING ACTUAL COMBAT MANEUVERS IN A SITUATION THAT DOES NOT HAVE THE FEEDBACK OF THE REINFORCED EQUIPMENT, Y'KNOW
NO MATTER HOW MUCH SCOPOLAMINE (ANTI-MOTION SICKNESS MEDICINE) YOU TOOK ...YOU'RE BEING UNREASONABLE (GASP)
I DON'T MIND, SHIROGANE
INCREASE YOUR SPEED
...BUT (GASP)
O6
CAN'T YOU SPEED IT UP MORE
AS FOR BEING THE UNREASONABLE, THE SAME GOES FOR ALL OF YOU
THE SHAKING AT THIS LEVEL IS NOT MUCH OF ANYTHING, EITHER
...NOW, HURRY IT UP
...SHI-
O6 TO ALL UNITS
WE'LL DO A BOOST JUMP (A JET PROPULSION JUMP) AND TAKE A SHORT-CUT AT THE NEXT VALLEY
ROGER

ALL UNITS, YOU ARE FREE TO USE YOUR WEAPONS!
RETURN FIRE AS YOU SEE FIT!
GIVE 06'S SURVIVAL YOUR TOP PRIORITY!
UNKNOWN
SINCE WHEN DID THESE GUYS COME IN...!?
SEVERAL UNITS APPROACHING US AT 4 O'CLOCK!
FROM BEYOND THE RIDGELINE JUST NOW...!
SAY WHAT (GASP)!?
...HOWEVER, DO NOT WAGE A BATTLE HERE RECKLESSLY!
I DON'T EXPECT THE OTHER PARTY INTERFERE CARELESSLY!
...ROGER!!!
...WE'RE FINALLY GONNA KILL ONE ANOTHER, ARE WE
...SHIT!!
TELL IT TO THE COMMANDERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORCES AND THE KONOE (THE IMPERIAL GUARD) UNITS
!?

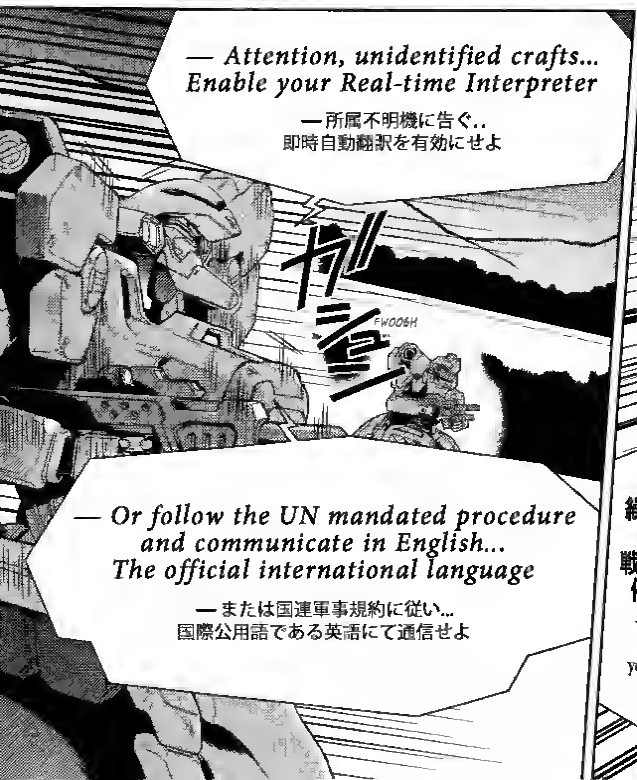
I REPEAT... WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ATTACKING YOU
ROARING
WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ATTACKING YOU
SKREE
EECH
PLEASE CEASE AND DESIST IMMEDIATELY
EE
EE
YOUR CONDUCT IS A SERIOUS INFRINGEMENT ON OUR SOVEREIGNTY AND THE NATION OF JAPAN
EE
...SHIT! I CAN'T SEE THEM (THEIR UNITS) ! WHERE ARE THEY !?
THAT'S FROM THE ENEMY RUNNING ALONGSIDE US... THEY'RE CALLING ON AN OPEN CHANNEL, ARE THEY !

WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM ...
WHERE ... ?!
!!
UNKNOWN
UNKNOWN
BEEP

UNKNOWN
HOW DID THEY GET THAT FAR TO APPROACH US FROM THERE !?
ARE THEY IN FRONT ...!?
SHIT !!
GUH ...
DON'T PUT A LOCK ON ME, YOU IDIOT !!
DO YOU WANT TO GET YOURSELF KILLED !!?

THIS IS THE AMERICAN ARMY'S 66TH TACTICAL (SENJUTSUKI/TSF) ARMORED BATTALION (AKA THE HUNTERS)
DON'T SLOW DOWN !! HURRY UP AND GO !!
THE UNITED STATES MILITARY FIGHTERS !?
THERE'S NO CHANGE TO THE OPERATION ...SO, RELAX !
WE'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE !

RO-... ROGER !!
ALL 207 UNITS, MAINTAIN YOUR FORMATION AND MAXIMIZE COMBAT VELOCITY !!!
THIS IS 207 LEADER, ROGER THAT !
THEY RESCUED US ...!?
THAT'S THE U.S. MILITARY'S !
ALTHOUGH THEY WERE APPROACHING US FROM THE FRONT, I COULDN'T TELL WHO THEY WERE BECAUSE THE RADAR BLIPS (LUMINOUS POINTS ON THE RADAR) WERE TOO SMALL...!


— Attention, unidentified crafts... Enable your Real-time Interpreter
—所属不明機に告ぐ.. 即時自動翻訳を有効にせよ
FWOOSH
— Or follow the UN mandated procedure and communicate in English... The official international language
— または国連軍事規約に従い... 国際公用語である英語にて通信せよ

来ました! 機影8... 米軍の F-15Eです!
< Here they come! 8 units sighted... They're the U.S Military's F-15Es! >
米軍機に告ぐ— 直ちに 戦闘行為を 停止せよ
< Attention, U.S. Military crafts... Stop your hostility at once >
繰り返す... 直ちに 戦闘行為を 停止せよ
< I repeat... Stop your hostility at once >

I repeat, communicate in English, the official international language... I don't understand what you're saying
繰り返す... 国際公用語である英語にて通信せよ。 何を言っているのか わからない
諸君の行為は重大な内政干渉である
< Your act is a serious interference in our domestic affairs >
直ちに戦闘行為を停止せよ
< Stop your hostility at once >
米軍機に告ぐ ... 英語など クソ食らえ
< Attention US Military crafts ...Fuck you and your damn English >
繰り返し ... 英語など クソ食らえ
< I repeat ...Fuck you and your damn English >
— What?
— 何？

〈YOU PEOPLE TURNED YOUR BACKS ON JAPAN... TURNED TAIL AND RAN HOME... WHAT BUSINESS IS IT OF YOURS, AFTER ALL THIS TIME〉
WHUD
〈DID YOU FORGET AND LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND? YOU STUPID BASTARDS!!
...WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!!
STRIKE EAGLE 8 (F-15E UNIT 8) ...IT'S GONNA BE A TOUGH ONE!
SURROUND AND ANNIHILATE WITH WING FORMATION 3 (V-SHAPED BATTLE FORMATION)! FIRE AT WILL!!!

ボッ
POW
POW
POW
POW
POW
POW
BOP
— You asshole!!!
— このやろオォオォオッ!!
IT'S RECKLESS TO GET INTO A DOGFIGHT (CLOSE COMBAT) WITH THE STRIKE EAGLES (F-15Es) IN THESE GEKISHING (THESE THUNDER STRIKES / F-4Js)!
DON'T BREAK THE ELEMENT (2-MAN/UNIT LINK)!
CLANG
!?
SHELLING AT 7 O'CLOCK!
ARE THERE UNITS SIGHTED ALL OF A SUDDEN —
!!?
THIS IS RIDICULOUS... WHERE'S THE RESPONSE ON THE RADAR ...!!?

WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PERTINENT DATA TO IDENTIFY THOSE...
THOSE ARE THE U.S. MILITARY'S NEWLY MADE — F-22As !!!
!!
ALL UNITS, SPREAD OUT !! FLAT SCISSORS ATTACK (A LEVEL SURFACE MANEUVER TO ATTACK ON BOTH FLANKS) !!!
SWIFT
SWIFT

THIS IS RIDICULOUS
...
...!

FWISH!
BOO-
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
-OOM

ROAR
ALL UNITS... STATUS REPORT
SPIKE 2... I'M GOOD
SPIKE 3... NO DAMAGE
SPIKE 4... EVERYTHING'S A-OKAY
GOOD JOB, EVERYONE
GLARE
ENEMY FORCES ARE SURROUNDING OUR ALLIES
WE'LL PICK 'EM OFF AROUND THE EDGES...
FOLLOW ME
Roger That!!

IN-
INCREDIBLE
...
THEY STOPPED
THE COUP D'ETAT
FORCE
DEAD ON
THEIR TRACKS
!
AMAZING...
THOSE ARE
THE
U.S. MILITARY'S
LATEST,
STATE-OF-THE-ART
UNITS
!
THEY MADE
A FUSELAGE
THAT CAN
HARDLY
BE CAPTURED
BY RADAR
EVEN IN
THAT SHORT
A DISTANCE...
AND IT'S
SPECIALIZED
FOR
INTER-
PERSONAL
COMBAT
!
WE'RE ABLE
TO GAIN
A LITTLE TIME
BECAUSE OF
THAT!
IF WE CAN
PULL AWAY
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE...!
...
...
HOWEVER,
THE COUP D'ETAT
FORCES ARE
ADVANCING AT
AN ABNORMAL
SPEED!...
E2
E3
E1
US 108wig
12U SKYLINE
207sqd
AS IT IS,
BY THE TIME WE REACH
THE HIEKAWA TOLLGATE,
ANOTHER SQUAD IS SURE
TO BE WAITING AROUND
TOMEI
(THE TOMEI EXPRESSWAY)
...WHAT SHOULD
WE DO THEN!?

episode:25

ÂGE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIGOBE / WWW.TONIGOBE.COM
PROOFREAD BY ACOMBAT / MUKUVALTERNATIVENEXUS.BLOGSPOT.COM
THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF ITS WITHIN YOUR MEANS

KAMEISHI RIDGE, TEMPORARY SUPPLY (RECHARGE) BASE
PRESENTLY, OUR A SQUADRON IS BUYING YOU TIME, BUT IF YOU CONSIDER THE BATTLE STRENGTH OF BOTH SIDES, WE CAN'T BE OPTIMISTIC
MY NAME IS MAJOR WALKEN, THE COMMANDER OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY'S 68TH TACTICAL ARMORED BATTALION (THE 68TH SENJUTSUKI ARMORED BATTALION)
ALTHOUGH I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE WAR SITUATION... WHAT I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT IS HER HIGHNESS' PHYSICAL CONDITION
BECAUSE OF THIS RECHARCHING, HER MOTION SICKNESS SHOULD SETTLE DOWN A LITTLE, BUT...
UHM... YOUR HIGHNESS ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ? IF YOU FEEL SICK, WE CAN IMMEDIATELY
THIS IS 207 LEADER... COPY THAT
WE WILL FORTIFY YOUR LEFT, RIGHT AND REAR FLANKS
AS SOON AS YOUR (THE 207TH SENJUTSUKI ARMORED SQUAD) RECHARGING IS COMPLETE, RESUME AND MAINTAIN YOUR FORMATION
...
...
RECHARGING

YOU DO NOT NEED TO WORRY
HOW ABOUT YOU... AREN'T YOUR LEGS SORE ? BECAUSE, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HAS BEEN SITTING FOR A LONG TIME
...
...
DON'T HESITATE TO LET ME KNOW IF YOU'RE UNCOMFORTABLE OKAY?
THE MORE I LOOK AT HER, THE MORE SHE LOOKS LIKE MEIYA ...
SHE MAY NOT BE AS VALIANT AS MEIYA, BUT... THEY WAY THEY KEEP THEIR STRENGTH TO THEMSELVES IS AWFULLY SIMILAR
AH... NO... BECAUSE THE TENSION ON THE BELT SUPPORTS ME...
BEING JOSTLED AROUND SO MUCH, SHE SHOULD BE IN A CONSIDERABLY BAD MOOD, AND YET... SHE'S MORE CONCERNED ABOUT ME THAN HERSELF
EH ?
FLYING... YOU MEAN, A SENJUTSUKI ?
DESPITE MY APPEARANCE AND DECORUM, I AM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE MILITARY, YOU KNOW
DO NOT WORRY ABOUT ME — I HAVE SOME KNOWLEDGE ABOUT FLYING

I DON'T HAVE IT HANDY, NOW, FOR A CERTAIN REASON, BUT...
I DO HAVE A FUSELAGE FOR MY OWN PERSONAL USE, YOU KNOW ?
96 HOURS !?
ASIDE FROM ME, SHE'S FLOWN MORE THAN ANYONE IN THE SQUAD !
THAT'S RIGHT — STILL, I'VE ONLY DONE ABOUT 96 HOURS WITH AN ACTUAL UNIT, THOUGH
IS IT SO STRANGE FOR A SHOGUN TO HANDLE A SENJUTSUKI ?
AH...NO! I'M JUST RATHER SURPRISED, THAT'S ALL...
IS THAT WHAT ...?
...A SENJUTSUKI FOR THE SHOGUN'S PERSONAL USE...
?
EH ? ...SHOGUNS PERSONALLY TOOK TO THE BATTLEFIELD ...?
WERE THE ONES WHO HAD THE DUTY TO LEAD IN BATTLE
ORIGINALLY... THOSE BORN TO THE SHOGUNATE FAMILY

...I see
THE KONOEGUN (THE IMPERIAL GUARDS ARMY) ARE THERE TO PROTECT THEM
AND
OF COURSE
THINGS LIKE THAT HARDLY EXIST, NOW, BUT
EVEN NOW, MANY WHO ARE DIRECT RELATIVES TO THE SHOGUNATE FAMILY DO GO TO WAR, YOU KNOW ?
...MEIYA IS ONE, TOO...
BY THE WAY, SHIROGANE ...
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS ?
SOME TIME AGO, I HEARD THE NAME OF THE 19TH INDEPENDENT PLATOON MENTIONED ON THE RADIO
WILL... THE COMMANDER OF THE KONOE (IMPERIAL GUARDS) THAT IS ACCOMPANYING THIS UNIT BE
FIRST LIEUTENANT MANA TSUKUYOMI ?
EH? IT IS, BUT ...WHY DO YOU ASK ?

!!
THE TAKEMIKAZUCHI (VALOROUS THUNDER) SHOULD BE DEPLOYED IN YOUR UNIT, BUT...
THE FACT THAT LIEUTENANT TSUKUYOMI IS ACCOMPANYING THIS UNIT MEANS...
I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHOSE CONSIDERATION THIS IS
THIS TAKEMIKAZUCHI IS FOR MEIYA-SAMA'S BENEFIT
I AM ORDERED TO LEAVE IT BY YOUR SIDE
MEIYA-SAMA... IF IT PLEASES YOU, WE HAVE PREPARED THE TAKEMIKAZUCHI
SHE'S (MEIYA'S) AT A LEVEL WHERE SHE'S MORE THAN JUST A RELATIVE ...
THE FACT THAT THIS PERSON (HER HIGHNESS) GAVE THAT (THE TAKEMIKAZUCHI) TO MEIYA MEANS...
I GET IT NOW
THAT PURPLE TAKEMIKAZUCHI WAS THE SHOGUN'S PERSONAL UNIT, WAS IT...

...
SHIROGANE
AH
...
YE-
YES,
YOUR
HIGHNESS
!?
YOU...
CALLED ME...
"MEIYA,"
DIDN'T YOU
...
!
WHEN
WE
MET FOR
THE FIRST
TIME
...
...
MEIYA
...
...YES,
YOUR
HIGHNESS
...
MITSURUGI
MEIYA
IS IN
THIS UNIT,
CORRECT
?

...
...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
EVEN NOW, SHE (THAT PERSON) NEVER SEEMS TO GRACIOUSLY ACCEPT MY PRESENTS
? SHE NEVER SEEMS... ...YOU SAY ?
SO SHE (THAT PERSON) HASN'T RIDDEN ON THE TAKEMIKAZUCHI AFTER ALL, HASN'T SHE... ...HUHU ...THAT'S JUST LIKE HER
... ...
IS THAT SO...
BECAUSE I'VE LIVED HERE A SHORT WHILE... I'M IGNORANT OF JAPAN'S STATE OF AFFAIRS, BUT...
I'M NOT LYING...
...UHM, YOUR HIGHNESS
WHAT IS IT ?

YOUR HIGHNESS AND MEIYA...
ARE... SISTERS... RIGHT...?
IT'S OKAY... WHAT IS THAT PERSON'S AND MY OWN HISTORY TO YOU?
AT LEAST FROM WHAT I HEAR... SHE'S A DISTANT RELATIVE TO THE SHOGUNATE FAMILY
BUT, WHEN I LISTEN TO YOUR HIGHNESS SPEAK, I CAN ONLY IMAGINE THAT YOU TWO HAVE A MUCH CLOSER RELATIONSHIP
AND BESIDES
...
...
AH... I'M SORRY! WAS IT BAD OF ME TO ASK!?
I DON'T MIND, SHIROGANE... INCREASE YOUR SPEED
AS FOR BEING UNREASONABLE, THE SAME GOES FOR ALL OF YOU
I'M FINE... GO QUICKLY! WON'T YOU PLEASE GO (GAE!)!!

...YOU TWO ARE SO ALIKE — YOUR FACES...
EVEN YOUR PERSONALITIES ...AND STUFF LIKE THAT
... ...
!
...
BECAUSE SHE AND I
THAT'S ... UNDERSTAND-ABLE
ARE TWINS IN FLESH AND BLOOD ...

DON'T EVER LET THEM SURPASS US HERE !!!
THE JAPS HAVE A GREAT NUMBER OF... TYPE 94s (SHIRANUIs) COMING!
ROARRR
BANG
THEY WERE QUICK TO DEPLOY !
ARE THEY REALLY TYPE 94s !?
HEAT 11 TO HEAT !
ENEMY REINFORCEMENTS COMING IN AT 2 O'CLOCK !
SEVERAL DOZEN
AND COUNTING !
THEY'RE THE TOP GUNS FROM THE FUJI INSTRUCTION SQUADRON (THE FUJI TSF TRAINING GROUP) !! THEY'RE GONNA BE TOUGH !!
THEY'RE RUSSIAN COLORS (RUSSIAN ARMY CAMOUFLAGE)
...!
ALL UNITS, GO TO DIAMOND ONE FORMATION (BATTLE FORMATION DIAMOND ONE) AND RETREAT TO THE MOUNTAINS! BUILD A LINE OF DEFENSE, PRONTO!!!

...
...!
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
MEIYA AND HER HIGHNESS ARE TWINS ...
I WAS CERTAIN THERE WAS A RELATIONSHIP, BUT IT'S MUCH CLOSER...!
THIS IS BAD... HER SYMPTOMS ARE GETTING WORSE THAN BEFORE WE RECHARGED! SHE'S AT HER LIMIT, ALREADY!
...YOUR HIGHNESS, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT !?
WE GAINED SOME DISTANCE, THANKS TO THE U.S. ARMY, SO I PROPOSE WE REDUCE OUR VELOCI-
VROO
...UH...
WHOOSH
DON'T...! I'M FINE... DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME... JUST CARRY OUT YOUR MISSION !
BUT! NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, YOU'RE UNABLE TO ENDURE THE CURRENT SPEED !
...IT'S OKAY IF IT'S ME
NO MATTER HOW HARSH THIS IS, I WILL NOT LOSE MY LIFE BECAUSE OF MOTION SICKNESS
BUT ...!

AS THE SYMPTOMS BECOME MORE SEVERE, THE POSSIBILITY OF DYING INCREASES DUE TO SUFFOCATION AND DEHYDRATION FROM VOMITING !
...THE FACT THAT YOU CAN'T DIE FROM MOTION SICKNESS IS INCORRECT
SHIT! SHE'S PERSISTENT TO THE POINT OF STUBBORNESS, JUST LIKE MEIYA...!
BUT, IF YOU DECREASE YOUR SPEED
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE LIVES OF MANY OFFICERS AND MEN WILL BE LOST...
UH ...
THAT CAN'T HAPPEN... ANYMORE ...
IF, GOSSIP, LIKE, "THEY MISTREATED HER HIGHNESS," SPREADS... THE FEELINGS THAT THE JAPANESE CITIZENS HAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED NATIONS WILL BE AT ITS WORST
IF THAT HAPPENS, MANKIND WILL ONCE AGAIN BEGIN A WORTHLESS FIGHT AMONG THEMSELVES ...!
IF HER HIGHNESS CAN ENDURE THIS, THAT WOULD BE THE END OF THAT
BUT, IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HER...
THIS IS HUNTER ONE TO ALL UNITS
!

WHA-
—
!?
ENEMY TROOPS, THAT WERE SEEN ADVANCING AT THE ROUTE 136 MARK, HAVE REACHED NEAR THE HIEKAWA TOLLGATE
—
AT THE OLD MISHIMA CITY
THE 174TH STRATEGIC ARMORED BATTALION IS FIGHTING THEM NOW
HIEKAWA, HE SAYS... THAT'S THE IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGH POINT, ISN'T IT !?
EVEN IF WE DEDUCT THE TIME WE TOOK TO RECHARGE
—
THE INSURGENT FORCES ARE DEPLOYING TOO FAST !!
THEY'RE NOT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT WE CHANGED COURSE, ARE THEY !? ARE THEY THAT RESOLUTE !?
E1
US 174wig
US I
UN 207
JE RG12411
HIEKA
WHY DO THEY PURSUE US WITHOUT HESITATION !?
ARE THEY THAT CERTAIN THAT WE'RE THE ONES ESCORTING HER HIGHNESS !?
DON'T TELL ME, WAS OUR PLAN LEAKED OUT ...!?
...!!
WHAT AM I THINKING !! THERE'S NO REASON FOR THAT SORT OF THING !!

IF I GO FASTER THAN THIS, HER HIGHNESS CAN'T LAST, CAN SHE !?
IT'S BAD THAT THEY CAN PIN US DOWN AT HIEKAWA ! BUT
ALL UNITS, MAINTAIN YOUR FORMATION AND BREAK THROUGH AT MAXIMUM COMBAT SPEED !
AND THAT'S THE SITUATION
EH !?
MOST LIKELY, A UNIT FROM THE FUJI GARRISON ...IS THE ONE ENTERTAINING THE 174TH BATTALION
THEY'RE THE CUTTING-EDGE OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT THE 174TH BATTALION CAN HOLD OUT AGAINST THEM FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME
EVEN THE FUJI INSTRUCTION COMPANY IS IN CONCERT WITH THE INSURGENTS ...!?
MOST LIKELY !?
E1
E2
US 108wi
UN 207sqd
Fuji Instruction Unit
THE INSTRUCTION COMPANY... IS IT
THEY TEACH PRACTICAL FLYING SKILLS TO EISHIS...
SO THAT'S IT ! THE FUJI UNIT WAS LEADING, AND THE FOLLOWING E1 COVERED OUR CHANGE OF COURSE !
THE ONES I THOUGHT WERE E1 WAS THIS FUJI UNIT
AND THAT EXPLAINS THE REASON WHY THEIR DEPLOYMENT WAS FAST !

SORRY, AYAMINE ...!
AS SOON AS WE'RE IN A PINCH, PARANOIA SETS IN ...!
SHIT ! IT WAS ME WHO SAID THAT I WOULDN'T WAVER... THAT I BELIEVED IN HER !
GRIP...
THOSE GUYS ARE DESPERATE TO PIN US DOWN — HOWEVER, CONVERSELY IF WE BREAK THROUGH HIEKAWA, IT MEANS THERE'S NOTHING THAT THEY CAN DO ABOUT IT
...CONSIDERING THE SITUATION, THE FUJI UNIT MUST BE THOSE GUYS' TRUMP CARD
IF WE BREAK THROUGH HIEKAWA — EVEN IF WE DROP OUR VELOCITY MORE OR LESS, CHASING US WON'T BE ENOUGH ... ...
THAT CERTAINLY IS TRUE... BEYOND THAT POINT, THERE ARE NO IMPERIAL ARMY BASES, ANYMORE
BECAUSE I HAVE NO MORE TIME TO WASTE... THIS IS NECESSARY FOR THE SAKE OF MANKIND'S FUTURE !
WHAT AM I HESITATING FOR ? ...MY TOP PRIORITY NOW IS TO KEEP THE INSURGENTS' HANDS OFF HER HIGHNESS !

...
...
...YES, MA'AM...
SHIROGANE...
DO NOT WORRY ...ABOUT ME...
HUNTER 1 TO HEAT LEADER (TF4 LEADER)
THERE IS NO CHANGE IN COURSE... I REPEAT... THERE IS NO CHANGE IN COURSE
THIS IS HEAT LEADER... COPY THAT, HUNTER 1... HURRY, PLEASE!
ROGER!!!
MAINTAIN YOUR COURSE AND FORMATION AT FULL SPEED!!!
FROM HERE, IT'S A RACE AGAINST TIME!
PLEASE... HANG IN THERE...
IF WE CAN GET PAST HIEKAWA, THE WITHDRAWAL COMMAND SHOULD ALSO COME DOWN ON THE INSURGENTS!
IF THAT HAPPENS ...THIS FOOLISH BATTLE SHOULD END, TOO!

BATTLE FORMATION, TRAIL ONE
(FRONT TO BACK FORMATION MODEL ONE)
AROUND 207'S UNIT 06
SQUAD 207, KEEP LEFT... SQUAD 19,
(THE 19TH INDEPENDENT SQUAD)
BE PREPARED FOR THE ENEMY TO SALLY ON THE RIGHT
FURTHERMORE, ALL SQUAD 207 UNITS ARE TO FIRE BACK ONLY WHEN NECESSARY WITHOUT STOPPING ...FOR YOU, YOUR TOP PRIORITY AND MISSION IS TO ESCAPE !
ROGER !
WE'RE ABOUT 1.5 KILOMETERS TO HIEKAWA... WE'RE JUST SECONDS AWAY !
CAN WE MAKE IT IN TIME !?
SHI-
(GASP)
...
!!
WARNING
ENEMY UNITS APPROACHING

HUNTER 1 TO ALL LEADERS
...THE ENEMY HAS REACHED THE TOLLGATE
WHA-!?
WHAT'S THIS GUY SO CALM ABOUT!
WE'LL BE PINNED DOWN FOR SURE
HOWEVER, AS LONG AS THE SHOGUN IS HERE, THE ENEMY CAN'T INTERFERE WITH US CARELESSLY
MAINTAIN PRESENT BATTLE FORMATION AND ADVANCE FULL SPEED AHEAD!
!
THEY CERTAINLY... CAN'T IDENTIFY WHICH UNIT HAS THE SHOGUN ON BOARD...
BUT, FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT, EVEN IF THEY ARE ABLE TO DO THAT, THERE'S A HIGH POSSIBILITY THEY MAY ACCIDENTALLY SHOOT THE SHOGUN'S UNIT DURING A MELEE
SINCE THOSE GUYS HAVE TO BE SURE THE SHOGUN IS UNHARMED!
THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR US!

IF THEY DON'T GET HER HIGHNESS'S AUTHORIZATION, SHE WILL BE A HINDRANCE
SHOULD THE WORST HAPPEN TO HER HIGHNESS, WHAT IF THEY INTEND TO PUT THE BLAME ON THE UNITED STATES MILITARY AND THE UNITED NATIONS ...?
BUT
WHAT IF THE INSURGENTS GIVE UP ON SECURING HER HIGHNESS ...?
EVEN IF HE DECIDES TO KILL THE SHOGUN, HE WON'T ACHIEVE HIS GOAL AS A RESULT, WILL HE...!?
IF THAT IS CAPTAIN SAGIRI'S TRUE INTENTION, THEN WHAT ...?
SUPPOSE HER HIGHNESS WAS KILLED IN AN IMPOSSIBLE INTERVENTION BY THE U.S. MILITARY... IF SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENS, OTHER IMPERIAL ARMY UNITS MAY REVOLT, TOO
ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE NATIONAL SENTIMENT TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES ...
HUNTER 9... COPY THAT
HUNTER 13 ... ROGER!
HUNTER 9 AND HUNTER 13 LEAD YOUR SQUADS TO PREVENT ENEMY BESIEGEMENT
...SHIT! EVEN IF I THINK ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT, NOW!!

...
...!
ROAR
SO AWESOME... IS THAT AT CRUISING SPEED !? DOES IT RETAIN ITS PROPELLANT !?
ENEMY UNITS AT 5 O'CLOCK !
US
HEAT LEADER TO HUNTER 1 ! WE'RE REACHING OUR LIMIT HERE SOON (GASP) !!
WHAT (GASP) !?
WE JUST DON'T HAVE THE NUMBERS LEFT ANYMORE TO HOLD THESE GUYS BACK ! PLEASE HURRY ...!!
THIS IS BAD !! AS IT STANDS, THEY'RE ACCOMPLISHING THEIR SIEGE, Y'KNOW !?
HUNTER 1 TO HUNTER 5 ! LEAD YOUR SQUAD TO STRIKE THE ENEMY AND STOP THEM FROM PURSUING US
SCRSCH-
HUNTER 5, ROGER THAT !
!

TO REBUILD THE DEFENSE LINE WITH 3 SQUADS OF F-22s
THAT'S THE MAJOR'S GOAL!
HUNTER 1 TO ALL LEADERS!
MAINTAIN YOUR COURSE AND BREAK THROUGH THE MIDDLE!!
THERE'S AN ABNORMAL NUMBER OF ENEMY MARKERS...!
WILL WE BE ABLE TO REALLY BREAK THROUGH...!?
US 66wig
UN 207sqd
JE RG19fli
US 66Csqd
US 66Dsq

THROUGH HERE ...
IF WE CAN JUST PASS THROUGH HERE...
!!

AS IT IS ...
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO FOR IT... GOOOO !!!

...!
...WE BROKE THROUGH! WE BROKE THROUGH!!
BECAUSE OF THIS, IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THOSE GUYS TO PIN US DOWN
AFTER PASSING THROUGH THE FUJIMIDAI MARK, NOE ("NAP OF EARTH" FLYING / A STEALTH FLIGHT) IN THE VALLEY
...ALL RIGHT! IF WE DO AN NOE, IT WILL BE LESS OF A BURDEN ON HER HIGHNESS!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, YOUR HIGHNESS?! WE'LL SOON...
...(GASP)!?
Y-...
YOUR HIGHNESS!!?

To BE CONTINUED....

EH ?
YOU'RE WITH ONE OF THE VICE-COMMANDER'S UNITS, RIGHT ?
THIS GIRL WANTS TO TAKE A BATH, BUT... WOULD YOU PLEASE ?
MUV-LUV ALTERNATIVE
JUST A SLIGHTLY PARALLEL WORLD
EH ?
...YOU'RE ALL MUDDY, AREN'T YOU
WHAT WERE YOU DOING OUTSIDE, YASHIRO ?
...I LAID DOWN ON THE GROUND AND WATCHED THE SKY
... ...
I WENT ... FOR A WALK
I RAN
KASHA
KASHA

I SLIPPED ...AND FELL IN THE MUD
AND ...
HM ?
...WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE TO YOU ?
...DO YOU LOVE HIM ?
... SHIROGANE-SAN TOLD ME
NOT TO FORGET MANY DIFFERENT THINGS...
AND THAT SUCH THINGS WOULD BECOME ...MY MEMORIES
TAKERU DID ?
... ...
...I DON'T UNDERSTAND
NO... IT'S NOT LIKE I LOVE HIM... I MEAN, HE'S A COLLEAGUE WHO I SHOULD BE PROUD OF AS A FELLOW SOLDIER... AND FOR THAT...
WHAT THAT MAN THINKS ABOUT ME, IN GENERAL... I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING...!
AH
WA
WA
WA
WHA- (GASP) ...
WA
WA
WA

TA (GASP) TAKERU !?
...WHAT'S WITH THAT GETUP ?
OH ? MEIYA AND KASUMI ?
....
CHANGED INTO BORROWED CLOTHES

WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT ME, I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING
...
...
IT...IT'S NOTHING OF THE SORT, OKAY (GASP) !?
WHAT'S UP ? YOUR FACE IS RED, Y'KNOW... YOU CATCH A COLD ?
AS A UNITED NATIONS OFFICER, IF I DISPLAYED SUCH THINKING, THEN...
I... I'M NOT PARTICULARLY CONSCIOUS ABOUT HIM, OKAY... UM-HM
?

PEEP!

READING

WHA
!?
※TAKERU POV
PROJEC-
TION!
HYAU
(GASP)
!?
PAT
OI... WHAT'S WRONG?
YOUR COMPLECTION IS REALLY UNUSUAL, Y'KNOW? ARE YOU OKAY?
...SOMETHING WAS WRONG, AGAIN, I GUESS
POW
ARGOS
(GASP)
!?
(THROES OF DEATH)
SPRITZ
DON'T... DON'T TOUCH ME
!!
DID MEIYA-SAMA CRACK !?
MUTTER
SPUTTER
ERASE SUCH RUDE AND INSOLENT THINGS FROM MY HEAD...
UUH... YOU'RE WRONG... IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...

MUV-LUV ALTERNATIVE 04

-SPECIAL THANKS-

PECTONG
須藤康英
冴疋 枢
逢澤まこと
長谷見 亮

-COVER COLORIST-

チャリボッコR

DENGEKI COMICS

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ④

2010年1月27日　初版発行
2010年5月31日　再版発行

原作 ―― アージュ
作画 ―― 蒔島 梓

英語訳 & 編集　トニゴビ
December 2013-August 2014 ~ http //www tonigobe com/
英語校正　Acroray
http //muvluvalternativenexus blogspot com/

発行者 ―― 髙野 潔
発行所 ―― 株式会社アスキー・メディアワークス
〒160-8326 東京都新宿区西新宿 4-34-7
電話 03-6866 7306（編集）
発売元 ―― 株式会社角川グループパブリッシング
〒102-8177 東京都千代田区富士見 2-13-3
電話 03-3238-8605（営業）
カバー・本文デザイン ― 安永 壽
装丁 ―― 朝倉哲也 (design CREST)
印刷・製本 ―― 大日本印刷株式会社

©2010 âge All rights reserved　Printed in Japan

本書は 法令に定めのある場合を除き、複製 複写することはできません。
落丁 乱丁本はお取り替えいたします。購入された書店名を明記して、
株式会社アスキー メディアワークス生産管理部あてにお送りください。
送料小社負担にてお取り替えいたします。
但し 古書店で本書を購入されている場合はお取り替えできません。
定価はカバーに表示してあります。

ISBN978-4-04-868369-2　C9979

初出 月刊コミック電撃大王 2009年7月号～2010年1月号（アスキー メディアワークス刊）

...YOU'RE NOT GONNA ARREST ME ?
BAKA... FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, WE'RE COMRADES IN THE SAME UNIT, RIGHT ? WE DO THINGS WITHOUT ASKING ANYTHING
GENERALLY SPEAKING, I WONDER, IF YOU DIDN'T INTEND TO GET CAUGHT, COULD I HOLD YOU DOWN SO EASILY... Y'KNOW
...IT'S YOUR IMAGINATION

IT'S NOT ONLY A PROBLEM FOR YOU... IF, IN FACT, YOU ARE INVOLVED IN SOMETHING
AS A COMRADE, I CAN'T POSSIBLY DISREGARD IT
...AND AS A SOLDIER, I CAN'T POSSIBLY REMAIN SILENT
...WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T WANT TO KILL ME ?
...
...

...YOU SHOULD STOP IT...
THIS IS AN ACUTE CONVERSATION FOR ME
IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, AYAMINE... YOU

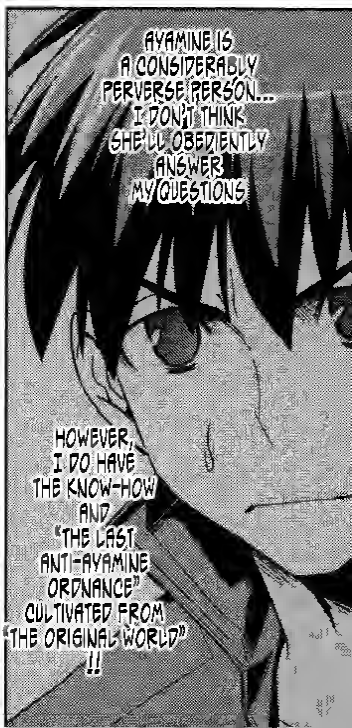
IN ANY CASE, UNLESS I CAN PUMP INFORMATION OUT OF AYAMINE ...
STILL, SINCE IT'S HER, IT SEEMS SHE'LL ADEQUATELY EVADE ME AGAIN...
EE OW OW OW OW OW OW OW OW
STILL, IT'S RARE, HUH ...IT'S LIKE AYAMINE ISN'T HERE ON CHOW MEIN (YAKISOBA) DAY
USUALLY, SHE FLIES TO THE HEAD OF THE LINE, AND YET ...
UWAH !?
THAT'S IT (GASP) !!
CHOW MEIN (YAKISOBA) ?

WHAT BUSINESS ?

NOTES:
"AMANOJAKU" IS A DEMON-LIKE CREATURE IN JAPANESE FOLKLORE.

THE TERM IS ALSO USED TO DESCRIBE SOMEONE WHO IS PERVERSE OR OBSTINATE.

SHIROGANE... I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR FAT FACE
...A CONTEMPTIBLE GREETING, ISN'T IT...
EVEN THOUGH I BROUGHT SOME WONDERFUL FOOD ALL THE WAY JUST FOR YOU


AYAMINE IS A CONSIDERABLY PERVERSE PERSON... I DON'T THINK SHE'LL OBEDIENTLY ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
HOWEVER, I DO HAVE THE KNOW-HOW AND "THE LAST ANTI-AYAMINE ORDNANCE" CULTIVATED FROM "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !!

THE ULTIMATE MENU, BORN FROM MY ORIGINAL IDEA...
IN "THIS WORLD," ACCORDING TO AYAMINE, AN IMPORTANT TREASURE (PERHAPS) DOES NOT EXIST !
THIS IS... THE "YAKISOBA PAN" (GASP) !!
...I'LL CROSS OVER SPACE AND TIME AND REVIVE HER, HERE AND NOW !!

SFX NOTES
IN PANEL 1, "DO" IS GENERALLY A QUICK IMPACT SOUND (LIKE "BOP!"), AND WHEN USED IN MULTITUDE, IT CAN SIGNIFY THE SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS RUNNING, OFTEN BUILDING UP IN VOLUME AS THE SUBJECT APPROACHES. IN THIS CASE, IT'S THE BUILD-UP TO THE "DRAMATIC IMPACT" OF PANEL 2, "DOOON."

JUST A REFRESHER. A DRAMATIC IMPACT = AN IMPACT NOT TO SHOW THE LITERAL SOUND OF SOMETHING, BUT TO PROVIDE EMPHASIS (LIKE "BOOM!"). ALTHOUGH, SOMETIMES, I TEND TO LIKEN THEM TO THOSE LOW, ONE-NOTE DRAMATIC FAN FARES YOU SOMETIMES HEAR IN CAMPY TV DRAMAS.)

IN PANEL 5, "HYUUUU" REPRESENTS THE SOUND OF WIND OR A BREEZE. IN THIS CASE, PERHAPS A LONELY BREEZE, SINCE TAKERU'S SPEECH DIDN'T MAKE MUCH OF AN IMPACT (OR "BOOM!")

HYOO
DAMN IT... DID I MAKE FUN OF AYAMINE TOO MUCH ...?
THAT'S SO, IS IT... THERE ISN'T A GUY WHO CAN BE LURED BY FOOD AFTER SUCH A CONVERSATION, IS THERE...

NOTES THIS PAGE IS PRETTY STRAIGHT FORWARD BUT PANEL 6, IN ALL ITS SIMPLICITY, DID LEAVE ME A BIT BEFUDDLED AS TO HOW TO HANDLE IT.
THE VERSION IN LARGE TEXT IS MORE LITERAL..
THE VERSION IN SMALLER TEXT IS A THIRD VERSION I HAD CONSIDERED.
WHOA (GASP) !?
I MEAN, THE WHOLE INTENTION IS FOR YOU TO EAT...
SINCE I PREPARED IT JUST FOR YOU
OF... OF COURSE
ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF "DON"
AND EARS
...MAY I EAT IT ?
GRAB!
DOG TAIL, APPARENTLY
...
...
H-... HOW IS IT ?
I NEVER IMAGINED THERE WOULD BE A DAY WHERE I WOULD BE FEEDING AYAMINE YAKISOBA PAN...
MUCH
MUNCH
...
...
NOW
...
HISTORY... HAS MOVED ....!
I HAVE MADE... HISTORY..!
IS IT THAT MUCH !?
IS IT THAT BIG A DEAL !?
IS IT TO THAT EXTENT !?
HAS IT COME TO THAT !?
HEY, AYAMINE ...

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA

NOTES: A SLIGHTLY MORE LITERAL VERSION, PARTICULARLY FOR PANEL 3.

HOWEVER, ABOUT THOSE LETTERS, EARLIER...
THAT IS... SORRY FOR ENTERING YOUR ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION... IT'S MY BAD
...
...
DO YOU... TRULY HAVE NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT THEM ?
I'LL SAY IT FRANKLY — AT FIRST, I WAS THINKING YOU'RE INVOLVED IN SOME CONSPIRACY...
AND WORST, WHETHER OR NOT I COULD LEND A HAND
IT COMES FROM THAT "I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU" OVER THOSE CLEARLY SUSPICIOUS LETTERS
...
...
BUT, IF YOU WERE SOME SPY
IT'S TOO FOOLISH TO THINK HOW... YOU COULD DROP A LETTER, OR LEAVE IT ON TOP OF YOUR DESK
OR RATHER, IT'S NATURAL TO THINK YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE FOR THE SAKE OF SHOWING THEM, RIGHT ?
...A GREAT IMAGINATION, HUH

I'M NOT PARTICULARLY SAYING FOR YOU TO TELL ME EVERYTHING
BUT, IF YOU'RE IN SOME SORT OF TROUBLE... DON'T BEAR WITH IT BY YOURSELF
THESE ARE THE WORDS AS A FELLOW SOLDIER OF SQUAD 207
AND, IF YOU CAN DEAL WITH YOUR PROBLEM BY YOURSELF, I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT
THESE ARE THE WORDS AS A SOLDIER OF UNITED NATIONS FORCES
...I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT
... ...
AH... O!
-CIOUS
EH ?
IT WAS DELICIOUS
MAKE IT ... AGAIN
Y-... YO...
BATAN
... ...

YEAH... THERE'S NOTHING TO DO UNTIL TOMORROW
I THOUGHT I'D SEE HOW MUCH YOU GUYS IMPROVED WHILE I WASN'T AROUND, BUT STILL
WHAT... ARE YOU ALREADY DONE WITH COMMANDER KOUDZUKI'S SPECIAL DUTIES ?
APART FROM THAT, WE'RE ALWAYS ON ALERT AS IT IS, AREN'T WE ?
I THOUGHT WE WOULD BE able TO MIX UP TRAINING TODAY
YEAH... ABOUT THAT
I SPOKE TO HER, TOO, BUT... I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HER ALL THAT WELL
AS EXPECTED WE WEREN'T ABLE TO TALK ABOUT THE LETTER ...
HOW... THAT CAME OUT PRETTY BIG, DIDN'T IT ?
HAVING EXPERIENCED THE HORROR (THE AWESOMENESS) OF THE NEWLY DEVELOPED OS MYSELF
BI
!?
ATTENTION .. DEFENSE STANDARD CONDITION 2 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT... ALL COMBAT TROOPS AWAIT IN A PANOPLY
I REPEAT.. DEFENSE STANDARD SITUATION 2 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT... ALL COMBAT UNITS

WHAT IS THIS !? SUCH AN ALARM IS NOT IN MY MEMORY !?
IF I SAY THAT THE THING THAT HAPPENS NEXT IS THE CHRISTMAS — ...BY NO MEANS !?
...TAKERU (GASP) !!
I'M GONNA GO TO YUUKO-SENSEI ! MY BAD, BUT PLEASE TELL EVERYONE !
UNDER-STOOD (GASP) !!
UNDER-STOOD !
I REPEAT... DEFENSE STANDARD CONDITION 2 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ...ALL
TACTICAL ELEMENTS MUST STAND BY IN FULL ARMAMENT
SUDDENLY, AT A TIME LIKE THIS, A CONDITION 2 DEFENSE ALERT ...!?
DON'T TELL ME... THAT ALTERNATIVE 5 HAS TRULY MOVED UP ...!?

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA

EDITOR'S NOTES: THE ORIGINAL SCAN FOR THIS MANGA HAD MISSING IMAGE DATA BETWEEN THE SPLIT PAGES. INITIALLY, I WASN'T PLANNING ON JOINING THESE PAGES, BECAUSE IT WOULD REQUIRE SOME MAJOR GUESS WORK AND RE-DRAWING. BUT THEN I THOUGHT, "AH, WHAT THE HECK!" ^_^

THEY HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY CAPTURED THE TOKYO WATER FILTRATION PLANT AND THE POWER PLANT !
THEY ALSO GOT AROUND TO THE MAIN NEWSPAPER COMPANY AND THE BROADCASTING STATION... TOKYO'S COMMUNICATION SITES ARE —
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING ?
WELL... I WAS SURE THAT ALTERNATIVE S ...
AAH... THE CLASSIFIED LEVEL IS LOWER HERE THAN IN MY ROOM, IS IT
SHIROGANE !? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...

—CENTRAL COMMAND
HOW'S THE SITUATION AROUND THE IMPERIAL CASTLE ! REPORT TO US IMMEDIATELY !!
THEY HAVE TAKEN CONTROL OF BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND THE IMPERIAL CAPITOL (THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENTARY HOUSE) !!
THERE'S STILL NO MOVEMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES SEVENTH FLEET THAT'S DEPLOYED OFF THE SAGAMI BAY !
... YUUKO-SENSEI (GASP) !!
INDEED, IT HAS... I WONDER WHERE CAN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY INTERVENE IN THIS CONFUSION... THEY OUGHT TO BE CAREFUL
— IT'S BECOME DIFFICULT, HASN'T IT...

...YOU'RE A FINE ONE TO SAY THAT... IS IT FOR YOUR OWN PURPOSE ?
NOT AT ALL... IF IT CAN WORK FOR A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LIKE THE DOCTOR, COME HELL OR HIGH WATER, METAPHORICALLY SPEAKING
I'M SURE IT FEELS GOOD TO CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT
DOES A FLUNKY (POLITICIAN, DIPLOMAT, BROWN-NOSER) WHO DOESN'T STAY WITHIN BOUNDS ...GET BUMPED OFF ?

NOTES: SECTION CHIEF SAKON YORDI'S DIALOG IN THE LAST PANEL HAD A LOT OF ELBOW ROOM TO PLAY WITH. THE FINAL VERSION I PRESENTED WAS MY SECOND TAKE (ACTUALLY VERSION 2.1). THE VERSION BELOW IS MY INITIAL TAKE (AND THIRD TAKE IN SMALLER LETTERS).

SFX NOTES: "GO GO GO GO GO" "GO" IS GENERALLY USED AS A RUMBLING SOUND, BUT IT IS ALSO USED AS A DRAMATIC EFFECT TO SIGNIFY SOMETHING OMINOUS, MENACING, OR FOREBODING.

IT'S THE SAME FOR YOU, TOO, ISN'T IT... DOCTOR KOUDZUKI
IT'S THE NATURE OF MY BUSINESS... I DO NOT CHOOSE THE MEANS IN ACCOMPLISHING AN OBJECTIVE
YES OF COURSE ...
EVEN IF IT'S MY OWN DAUGHTER, I DON'T MIND THE SACRIFICE (THEY ARE WILLING SACRIFICES)
EVEN IF IT'S A DIRECT RELATIVE OF THE SHOGUN, AND THE DAUGHTER OF THE PRIME MINISTER...
GO
!?

NOTES: MOST OF THE TRANSLATION FOR THIS PAGE WAS PRETTY STRAIGHT-FORWARD. ALTHOUGH THE SECTION CHIEF DOESN'T USE ANY PRONOUNS, BECAUSE OF THE CONTEXT OF THE DIALOG, I CONCLUDED THAT THE PRONOUN "WE" WOULD FIT BEST IN HIS SENTENCES, RATHER THAN "I" OR "THEY," SINCE HE WOULD BE SPEAKING NOT ONLY FOR HIMSELF, BUT THE OTHER PARENTS, AND YUUKO-SENSEI

PLEASE RELAX... IT'S NOT LIKE I WILL WASTE THE VICTIMS*
WH-... WHAT'S THAT ...!?
THEY FULLY PLAN TO UNDERSTAND THE METHOD AND THE TIMING THAT MAKES THE BEST USE OF THOSE SCAPEGOATS*, YOU KNOW
... DOCTOR KOUDZUKI AND I
ALONG WITH THE BLOOD RELATIVE IN LINE TO INHERIT THE SHOGUNATE... THERE'S THE DAUGHTER OF TAMASE GENJOUSAI, THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE U.N.
AND, THE DAUGHTER OF SAKAKI KORECHIKA, THE PRIME MINISTER...
!?
FURTHERMORE, THERE'S THE DAUGHTER OF AYAMINE SHUUKAKU, THE FORMER LIEUTENANT-GENERAL OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY
AND LASTLY, THE DAUGHTER OF YOURS TRULY, YOROI SAKON, SECTION CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 2ND DIVISION
DO YOU THINK ALL THESE GORGEOUS, CLASSY, SUMPTUOUS, RICH, ETC.** MEMBERS HAD GATHERED HERE ACCIDENTALLY ?
!!

*ALTERNATE TRANSLATION FOR "SACRIFICE" (IKISEI = 犠牲)
**ONE JAPANESE WORD, "GOUKA," (豪華) SO MANY WONDERFUL ADJECTIVES TO CHOOSE FROM! I ENDED UP USING TWO!

SFX NOTES: ZA (ザ) IS A WHITE NOISE SOUND, LIKE TELEVISION OR RADIO STATIC.

DIALOG NOTES I: IN THE JAPANESE VERSION, TAKERU'S SENTENCE IS ACTUALLY INCOMPLETE, AND WOULD ACTUALLY LOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS IF TAKEN LITERALLY. JUST FILL IN THE MISSING VERB OR VERBAL PHRASE! INSTEAD OF FILLING IN THE OBVIOUS, I DECIDED TO LEAVE TAKERU'S SENTENCE FRAGMENTED TO CONVEY A SENSE OF STRUGGLE AS HE TRIES TO RECALL

DIALOG NOTES II: THIS IS A RATHER FAN-WIKI-A VERSION FOR SAGIRI'S SELF INTRODUCTION. THE SMALLER TEXT IN THE 2ND BALLOON IS THE DISCRIPTION TAKEN FROM THE MUV-LUV WIKI.

HTTP://MUVLUV.WIKIA.COM/WIKI/SAGIRI_NAOYA

HMM... IT'S A CONSIDERABLY GOOD EXCUSE OF A PERFORMANCE
ARE YOU AWARE YOU'RE BEING FORCED TO DANCE ?
UNLESS I TAKE ACTION HERE AND NOW...
THERE WILL BE NOTHING FOR THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN TO STAND ON EVER AGAIN
IT'S GOOD TO TAKE ACTION IF YOU FALL, HOWEVER...
WHAT DO YOU, WHO KEPT OUR HIGHNESS, THE SHOUGUN, AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE
IT IS NOT WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING... THAT FORCES WHAT ON PEOPLE
AND DID AS YOU PLEASED WITH THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION, SAY ...!

WE WERE CONTENT WITH A HANDOUT... AND WHEN WE FORGOT THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN, IT PERISHED
WHEN IT WAS INVADED BY THE BETA JAPAN WASN'T DESTROYED
...SINCE YOU CAME HERE, YOU'RE PREPARED, AREN'T YOU
A RESOLUTION TO EXPOSE THAT BODY (THE BLADE AS OPPOSED TO THE HANDLE) TO GRIME
CHI
I MUST BE WITHOUT FAIL

AS YOU ALL KNOW, OUR EMPIRE HAS BECOME A FOREFRONT IN THE BATTLE AGAINST INVADERS, MULTIPLIED BY THE SURVIVAL OF THE HUMAN RACE
OUR COMRADES RISK THEIR LIVES, DAY AND NIGHT, IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THESE INVADERS, IN ORDER TO PROTECT ALL OF HUMANITY, ALONG WITH YOU AND OUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS
IT IS A NOBLE DUTY THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT AND WE OFFICERS WERE ASSIGNED TO, AND YOU MAY SAY, IT IS THE ONE AND ONLY MISSION WE SHOULD ACCOMPLISH
HOWEVER, CAN YOU SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IMPERIAL ARMY
No. 5 BRIEFING R
THE NEWS REPORTED FLATTERING COMPLIMENTS ...
ABOUT THE TENGEN-YAMA (MOUNT TENGEN) DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS THE OTHER DAY.. ABOUT SOLDIERS VOLUNTEERING TO HELP REGARDLESS OF THE DANGER .. ABOUT THE PROTECTION OF THE LIVES AND PROPERTIES OF THE CITIZENS BEING A TOP PRIORITY...
...!
IN FACT, THEY WERE TRANSFERRED TO REFUGEE CAMPS BY A METHOD EQUAL TO ABDUCTION, WHERE THEY WERE INDIVIDUALLY ATTACKED WHILE ASLEEP, WITH TRANQUILIZING GUNS !!
HOWEVER, THE REALITY OF THE STRATEGY DISREGARDED THE WILL AND THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS WHO RETURNED
HAVE SUFFICIENTLY FULFILLED THEIR OBLIGATION !?

SAKAKI... I HUMBLY GIVE YOU MY CONDOLENCES FOR THE DEATH OF YOUR FATHER
I AM TOLD THE RINGLEADER, CAPTAIN SAGIRI, HIMSELF CONSIDERED THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS CABINET MEMBERS TRAITORS, AND MURDERED THEM...
WHAT DID HE MEAN BY "TRAITORS"... IS HE SAYING THAT CLASS REP'S OLD MAN WAS A BAD PERSON ...!?
WHY... I WAS HE KILLED (GASP) !?
...BECAUSE WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF DUTY, NOW...
...IT'S OKAY...
...
...

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA
NOTES: THIS ENTIRE PAGE WAS FRAUGHT WITH ALTERNATE TAKES BECAUSE THERE WERE SO MANY DIFFERENT NUANCES TO ALL THE DIALOG. IMHO FOR EXAMPLE, I ALMOST STUCK WITH DOCTOR KOUDZUKI'S LINE ABOUT "A USEFUL HORSE" --A MORE LITERAL TAKE-- BECAUSE IT FITS BETTER CULTURALLY... AFTER ALL, THIS IS JAPAN
BUT THE JAPANESE TERM CAN ALSO BE USED TO REPRESENT A GAME PIECE OF
STRATEGIC GAMES BESIDES SHOGI, LIKE CHESS, HENCE, THE WORD "PAWN" IS USED IN THE FINAL VERSION.
WHILE I AM TROUBLED THAT A CONVENIENT HORSE (A SHOGI PIECE) CAN LEAVE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF OTHERS...
IS IT SOMETHING ONE CAN RELATIVELY GRASP FOR ONE'S OWN CONVENIENCE?
IT CONCERNS ME THAT A CONVENIENT HORSE CAN LEAVE FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS' CONVENIENCE BUT (I'M WORRIED THAT A USEFUL PAWN KNOWS HOW TO BOW OUT GRACEFULLY BUT...)
IT'S SOMETHING YOU'RE ABLE TO RELATIVELY COMPREHEND FOR YOUR OWN ACCOUNT, YOU KNOW? (CAN'T YOU GET A CLUE OR TAKE A CUE FOR YOURSELF? AREN'T YOU RELATIVELY SMART ENOUGH TO GET A CLUE FOR YOURSELF?)
...I WONDER, WEREN'T YOU TOLD "IN MODERATION"?
OOH, SCARY... YOU'RE COLD, AREN'T YOU... EVEN THOUGH I'M PUTTING FORWARD MY BEST EFFORTS FOR THE DOCTOR'S SAKE
ALSO, I ALMOST STUCK WITH THIS VERSION BECAUSE IT SEEMED MORE OBVIOUS SHE WAS REFERRING TO UNDERSECRETARY TAMASE AND THUS OPENING A CUE FOR THE SECTION CHIEF I EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT TRANSLATING IT AS SOMETHING LESS SUBTLE AND VAGUE BUT BEING SUBTLE IS ONE OF THE FUN ASPECTS OF THE DOCTOR AND SECTION CHIEF'S EXCHANGES
I WONDER, IS IT BECAUSE OF...
SHIROGANE TAKERU'S ASSISTANCE?
I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO TAKE CARE
...IF YOU HANDLE WITHOUT FAIL THE MATTER I REQUESTED, I WON'T COMPLAIN
I MUST RETURN IMMEDIATELY TO THE HARSH PLACE OF A SALARIED EMPLOYEE
...WELL, PERHAPS I'LL DO MY OWN WORK, TOO
...SALUTE!!
EACH OF YOU... AWAIT IN PREPARATION FOR ACTION (STAND BY AND BE READY)! THAT IS ALL... DISMISSED!!
THE POSSIBILITY OF A SORTIE IS NOT ZERO... AT THIS TIME, YOUR AIRFRAMES ARE BEING EXCHANGED WITH ACTUAL COMBAT EQUIPMENT
IN THIS SITUATION, THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AN ACT IN WHICH THE TRAINING FORCE WILL GO OUT, BUT...

...CLASS REP!
.....THE FIRST ACTUAL COMBAT FOR US...
AND THAT MIGHT BE... AGAINST A HUMAN OPPONENT...
SHIT... AT SUCH A TIME, I DON'T KNOW WHAT FACE I MAY DO ...!
...
...
THANKS... BUT, PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
HEY... YOU... SHOULDN'T SOMEONE SUBSTITUTE AS SQUAD LEADER AT LEAST FOR NOW?
...!
...WHAT IS IT?
AAH... ...THAT IS ABOUT YOUR OLD MAN... IT'S UNFORTUNATE, (IT'S A PITY / IT'S A SHAME) ISN'T IT
...WHAT ...YOU MEAN I CAN'T PERFORM MY DUTY? DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME
EARLIER, YOUR HANDS... THEY WERE SHAKING, WEREN'T THEY...
I UNDERSTAND AT LEAST THAT YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM USUAL, OKAY?
...
...

... ...
EVEN MITSURUGI... SHE SHOULD BE QUITE WORRIED ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION
I WONDER, DOES SHE UNDERSTAND ...THE REASON ?
YEAH... BUT SHE DOESN'T LET IT SHOW, EITHER
THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT TO ADD AN EXTRA BURDEN TO HER
...OF COURSE I STILL DO
I'M FINE
...ARE YOU OKAY ?
THEREFORE, NO ONE SHOULD WORRY ABOUT ME ANYMORE ...
CLASS REP...
SO, DON'T WORRY... I'LL PROVE I CAN DO JUST FINE
THAT WAY, I'LL BE DISTRACTED FROM SORROW, TOO
... ...

... ...
LIEUTENANT THESLEFF, YOU'RE FROM A REFUGEE CAMP, AREN'T YOU
BUT IF IT GOES TOO FAR, IT'S THE SAME AS THE RLF (THE REFUGEE LIBERATION FRONT) AND OTHERS... IT'S THE TERRORISTS WHO ONLY INVITE CONFUSION TO THE WORLD
... ...
TAKE 1 SUCH A FARCE... IT'S SOMETHING I WANT TO END QUICKLY
TAKE 2 I WANT TO MAKE A FARCE LIKE THIS END QUICKLY
... ...THIS IS TRUE, HUH...
IN THIS CURRENT WORLD
THERE'S NO TIME FOR MANKIND (HUMAN CREATURES, FELLOW HUMANS) TO BE FIGHTING EACH OTHER

...IT CANNOT BE
WHATEVER ORDER OF MEIYA-SAMA MAY BE SAID, ONLY THIS MUCH CANNOT BE
...(GASP)
YOU BITCH (GASP) ...!
IN SPITE OF THE CONCERN, MEIYA-SAMA!
THE FEELINGS THAT TSUKUYOMI-SAN WORRIES ABOUT OUR HIGHNESS ARE THE SAME AS MEIYA-SAMA...
NEVERTHELESS, YOU'RE AN IMPORTANT PERSON TO US, TOO, MEIY-SAMA
RESTRAIN YOURSELF, TOMOE (GASP)!!
THAT'S RIGHT ...FOR US, IT IS A DESIRE THAT TEARS UP OUR BODIES!
MEIYA-SAMA ...PLEASE SYMPATHIZE WITH TSUKUYOMI-SAMA!
CEASE (GASP)!!
WHY SHOULD WE NEGLECT BEING MEIYA-SAMA'S ATTENDANTS WHO OUR HIGHNESS HAD PERSONALLY BESTOWED!?
...THAT'S ENOUGH, ALREADY
MEIYA-SAMA ...

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA
NOTES FOR PANEL 1: FROM THE WAY THE FIRST BALLOON AND THE JAPANESE TYPESET WAS ORIGINALLY PRESENTED, IT APPEARS THAT TSUKERU WAS SPEAKING ALOUD. HOWEVER, IT APPEARED TO ME THAT THE "GRAINY BACKGROUND DETAIL" GOT DRAWN INTO THE BALLOON'S "TAIL." SO I SUSPECTED THAT IT WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO SHOW TAKERU THINKING TO HIMSELF, NOT SPEAKING ALOUD.
ORIGINALLY, FOR MY INITIAL TAKE, I HAD KEPT IN LINE WITH THE JAPANESE TYPESET; BUT AFTER MUCH THOUGHT, I DECIDED TO GO WITH MY SUSPICION FOR THE FINAL VERSION.
YES... THE 2ND REGIMENT, WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF GUARDING OUR HIGHNESS ARE THE ELITE AMONG THE ELITES (THE BEST AMONG THE BEST) ...PLEASE DO NOT WORRY
THEN... IS HIS/HER HIGHNESS SAFE ?
...THEN, THAT STUFF ABOUT THE BATTLE THAT BEGAN AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WAS A FALSE REPORT, WAS IT...
2ND DEEENSE LINE
NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEEENSE LINE
THE U.N. YOKOHAMA BASE
!!
THAT MAKES US UNDERMANNED UP TO THE SECOND DEFENSE LINE ...!!
I HEAR THAT THE MAIN FORCES OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL RECAPTURE OPERATION WERE EXTRACTED FROM THE NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE AND THE SECOND DEFENSE LINE
LIEUTENANT TSUKUYOMI... WHAT ABOUT THAT IMPERIAL ARMY CORPS ?
MOST LIKELY... THAT WILL BE THE UNIT TO BE DISPATCHED FROM THE KOSHINNETSU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE
IS THIS A SITUATION TO ADVANCE A REMONSTRATION FOR THE SELF-RULE OF A NATION?!! ...THIS IS SUCH TRIVIALIZATION!
THOSE BASTARDLY ABBERATIONS ...!
(OKAY ENOUGH OF THAT!)
IT'S LIKE, A POWER STRUGGLE AT A TIME LIKE THIS, AT THE FAR EAST BATTLE FRONT... WE SHOULD BORROW THE POWER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND SUPPRESS IT QUICKLY !
IT IS WORTHLESS, ISN'T IT... IT'S LIKE, FOR OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY ...
...I MIND YOUR EXASPERATION (I CAN'T IGNORE YOUR INDIGNATION) (I CAN'T IGNORE IT)
FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR NATION IS NOT SOME WORTHLESS MANIFESTATION (NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY IS NOT FOOLISH)

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA: INITIAL TAKE (AS ORIGINALLY PRESENTED)

...SO THE FACT THAT A BATTLE BEGAN AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WAS MISINFORMATION, WAS IT...

THEN... IS OUR HIGHNESS SAFE ?

YES... THE 2ND REGIMENT, WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF GUARDING OUR HIGHNESS ARE THE BEST AMONG THE ELITES ...PLEASE DO NOT WORRY

SECONDARY DEFENSE LINE

NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE

THE U.N. YOKOHAMA BASE

I HEAR THAT THE MAIN FORCES OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL RECAPTURE OPERATION WERE EXTRACTED FROM THE NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE AND THE SECONDARY DEFENSE LINE

!!

THAT MEANS WE'LL BE UNDERMANNED UP TO THE SECONDARY DEFENSE LINE ...!!

LIEUTENANT TSUKUYOMI... WHAT ABOUT THAT IMPERIAL ARMY UNIT ?

MOST LIKELY... THAT WILL BE THE UNIT TO BE DISPATCHED FROM THE KOSHINNETSU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE

THOSE STUPID BASTARDS ...!

AS IF THIS IS THE TIME AND PLACE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY !! ...THIS IS STUPID !

BA MU

...THAT WAS INEXCUSABLE

OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY IS NOT A STUPID THING

IT IS STUPID, ISN'T IT... IT'S LIKE, A POWER STRUGGLE... FOR OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY...

AT A TIME LIKE THIS, AT THE FAR EAST BATTLE FRONT... WE SHOULD SUPPRESS IT QUICKLY BY BORROWING THE POWER OF THE UNITED NATIONS !

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA

NOTES: I FOUND A JAPANESE MUV-LUV FANSITE WHERE THE BLOGGER ATTEMPTED TO MAKE SAGIRI'S LETTER LESS CRYPTIC. I INITIALLY TRANSLATED AND PRESENTED HIS INTERPRETATION HERE, BUT AFTER AN EXTENSIVE REVIEW, I ENDED UP DISAGREEING WITH MUCH OF WHAT HE WROTE. THIS HERE IS SIMPLY MY OWN ATTEMPT. I INTERPRETED EACH LINE OF SAGIRI'S LETTER IN TWO DIFFERENT WAYS. VERSION 2 IS MORE BLUNT & LESS POETIC.

VERSION 1
LATELY, THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN ON A PATH OF RUIN,
AND WE ARE SOON APPROACHING THE WORST OF TIMES.
WHEN I LOOK AT OUR NATION AS IT IS, IT DEEPENS MY SENSE OF HONOR
AND LOYALTY.
HOWEVER, MY WORDS, SPOKEN OR WRITTEN, HAVE NO IMPACT.
BEFORE I REALIZED IT, TIME HAS PASSED, AND I CAN'T TELL WHOSE SIDE THOSE
IN CHARGE ARE ON, NOR CAN I DEAL WITH THEM.
BUT EVEN SO, YOU, THE BEAUTIFUL AND WISE KEI, CONTINUE
TO INSPIRE AND ENCOURAGE ME.

WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH.
NOW THAT AYAMINE SHUUKAKU-DONO HAS LONG DEPARTED, THINGS ARE
DIFFERENT, AND MY COMRADES AND I WILL CARRY OUT OUR WILL.
IT'S SAD FOR THE COUNTRY AND SAD FOR THE PEOPLE, BUT UNLESS
I DISPELL YOUR FATHER'S REGRETS , I WANT YOU TO, AND HOPE
YOU WILL, BEAR WITNESS TO OUR RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION.

VERSION 2
THE COUNTRY IS GOING TO HELL IN A HANDBASKET,
AND THE HARD TASK OF CLEANING UP THIS SHIT IS COMING SOON!
WHEN I LOOK AT THE WAY THINGS ARE,
I WANT TO SAVE OUR NATION AND OUR SOVEREIGNTY.
IT'S FUTILE FOR ME TO CRITICIZE; THE CHAIN OF COMMAND WON'T LISTEN TO ME
OR READ MY MEMOS.
I'VE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE PEOPLE IN CHARGE ARE DUMB ASSES!
BUT, PRETTY MUCH THE REASON WHY I KEEP FIGHTING IS TO IMPRESS
A SMART AND HOT LOOKING BABE LIKE YOU♥

EVENTUALLY, YOU'LL REALIZE YOUR DAD WAS A HERO AND
I'M A HANDSOME BADASS DUDE!
IT'S NOT LIKE WHEN YOUR FATHER WAS ALIVE, AND
WE WILL FIGHT FOR OUR JUST CAUSE JUST 'CAUSE...
IT'S A SORRY SITUATION, BUT UNTIL WE KILL THOSE WHO WRONGED YOUR DAD,
WATCH US GET MAD, GET EVEN, AND KICK SOME TRAITOROUS BUTTS!

LINE 2 OF THE LETTER:
"THE COLD PINE OF SENJOU"...
SAGIRI USES THE PHRASE "*KANSHOU SENJOU*" (LITERALLY, "COLD PINE SENJOU"), WHICH COMES FROM THE CONFUCIAN EXPRESSION "*KANSHOU SENJOU NO SETSU*" [寒松千丈の節 (かんしょう せんじょう の せつ)], WHICH IS AN EXPRESSION THAT COMPARES UNCHANGING COLOR OF THE NEEDLES OF LARGE PINE TREES, EVEN IF IN THE COLD OF WINTER, TO THE CHASTITY OF LOYALTY, OR "*THE HONOR OF ALLEGIANCE.*"
LINE 5 OF THE LETTER:
"SUPERIOR IN KEISHIN"...
"KEISHIN [慧心]," AS WRITTEN, IS GENERALLY A GENERIC NAME MEANING "WISE SPIRIT," "WISE MIND," "WISE HEART."

SFX NOTES: 'GASHI GASHI" IS A TERM MEANING "BOISTEROUSLY (LOUDLY), ROUGHLY (FURIOUSLY) OR BRISKLY (ENERGETICALLY)." I INTERPRETED IT AS TAKERU GRABBING HIS HAIR FORCEFULLY, AS WELL AS SPEAKING LOUDLY, IN FRUSTRATION.

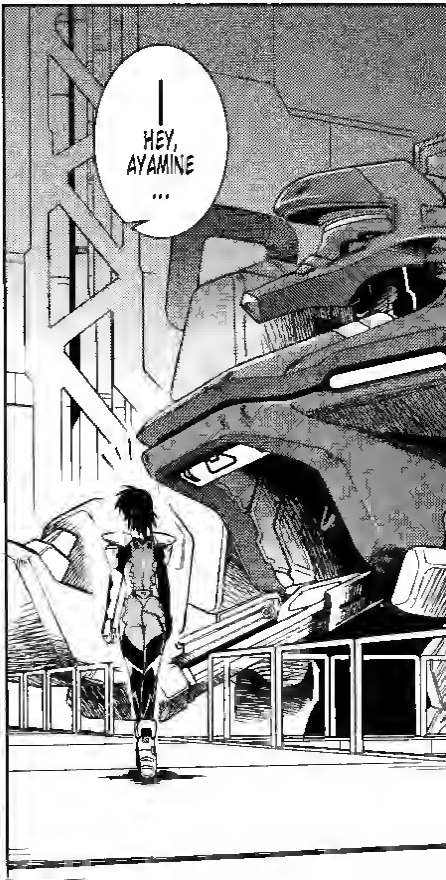
*LITERAL TAKE FROM THE JAPANESE VERSION. **MY APOLOGIES TO TAKERU AND TO THOSE WHO SHARE HIS SENTIMENT

NOTES: FOR PANEL 1, THIS IS HOW I INITIALLY TRANSLATED AYAMINE'S DIALOG.
IT'S ACTUALLY LESS LITERAL THAN THE FINAL TAKE, BUT INITIALLY, I FELT THAT THE CLIMACTIC LINE SHOULD BE THE FACT THAT THE PEOPLE DIED.
I ALSO THOUGHT ABOUT WRITING IT THIS WAY: "...THEN, AT LEAST, MAYBE THAT MAN WOULD NOT HAVE PERSONALLY KILLED THOSE PEOPLE..." ...WHICH IS THE LEAST LITERAL.
BUT THEN, I REALIZED THE DIALOG WAS ACTUALLY MUCH MORE POWERFUL WHEN PRESENTED AS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN; EMPHASIZING AYAMINE'S REALIZATION THAT THE MAN SHE WAS BETROTHED TO PERSONALLY (AND PERHAPS COLDLY) KILLED INNOCENT PEOPLE, LIKE CLASS REP'S FATHER.
IMHO, LIKE THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION, THE FINAL TAKE GIVES THE READER A SENSE OF AYAMINE'S HOPELESS DISPAIR AS SHE TRIES TO EXPLAIN HER THOUGHTS
THAT'S WHY... I SHOULD HAVE READ THEM SOONER
IF I HAD DONE SO... THEN, AT LEAST, THE PEOPLE WHO... THAT MAN DEALT WITH PERSONALLY
(DIRECTLY PUT HIS HANDS ON)
POSSIBLY WOULD NOT HAVE DIED ...!
I'M TOO LATE... ALREADY...
...!

I WON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS MATTER
NOW (AFTER ALL THIS TIME), BECAUSE YOU BECAME LIKE THIS... IT'S LIKE, EVEN IF I TOLD THEM, IT WOULD CAUSE EVEN MORE CONFUSION
... ... UNDERSTOOD
INSTEAD

...YEAH
ISN'T IT OKAY ? I'M A COMPLICITY, TOO

WHETHER IT'S CLASS REP'S OLD MAN OR CAPTAIN SAGIRI
...THERE'S NO REASON WHY YOU'RE TO BLAME
FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, EVEN IF YOU REPORTED THE LETTERS...
CHANCES ARE THE COUP D'ETAT SHOULD HAVE OCCURRED WHILE WHILE THEY CHECKED FOR AUTHENTICITY


HEY, AYAMINE ...

...I WONDER
EVEN CAPTAIN SAGIRI MIGHT HAVE BEEN CALCULATING AROUND THAT AREA

YOU BELIEVED ME AND TOLD ME YOUR STORY
WHA-
IF SO, THEN I WILL PROTECT YOUR BACK WITHOUT HESITATION
...SO, YOU MUST NOT WORRY ANYMORE, EITHER
-AAP
SHIROGANE ...
LET'S END IT QUICKLY
WE ONLY DO WHAT WE CAN DO
-OOM
BOO-

HOWEVER, REALITY IS DIFFERENT... NO MATTER HOW MUCH TIME PILES UP, THE WAR SITUATION IS NOT IMPROVING FOR THE BETTER
AND THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE CITIZENS CONTINUE TO WORSEN
AS FOR WISHING THE FIGHTING TO END, EVERYONE IS THE SAME
FOR SOMEONE'S TOMORROW SOMEWHERE
IN ORDER TO PROTECT A COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN, THAT IS IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE
IT IS THEY, ALONE, WHO DO NOT MIND MAKING THE SACRIFICE
...YOU'RE ...THAT WAY, TOO, I SUPPOSE
TO THIS DAY, THE CITIZENS CAN'T EVEN SEE AN EXIT
AND YET, THEY SIMPLY DO NOT LAMENT OVER THEIR PRESENT CONDITIONS
THOSE WHO INTEND TO CHANGE THAT WITH THEIR OWN POWER ARE NOT FEW IN NUMBERS
IT IS SO...
LIFE, ETC.... IS NOT (REGRETTABLE, DISAPPOINTING, VALUABLE, PRECIOUS, DESERVING OF BETTER)
(I WOULD WILLINGLY DIE FOR MY COUNTRY)

NOTES: MEIYA'S LAST SENTENCE IN THE LAST PANEL CAN SEEM LIKE SHE REGARDS (HER) LIFE AS UNIMPORTANT OR WORTHLESS. HOWEVER, THE PHRASE IS ACTUALLY A RATHER INDIRECT WAY OF SAYING "I WOULD GIVE MY LIFE FOR ____" OR "I WOULD SACRIFICE MYSELF FOR ____". IN OTHER WORDS: TO PARAPHRASE SECTION CHIEF YOROI FROM CHAPTER 20: SHE'S EXPRESSING HERSELF TO BE A WILLING SACRIFICE FOR HER COUNTRY

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA: LITERAL TAKE

NOTES: I TOOK A BIT OF LIBERTY WITH MEIYA'S SENTENCE IN PANEL 1.

I THOUGHT ABOUT KEEPING THE DIALOG TO PANEL 2 AS IS, BECAUSE IT WORKS WELL, CONVERSATIONALLY, IMHO. IMHO, IT GIVES THE READER THE IMPRESSION THAT MEIYA IS PARSING HER THOUGHTS AS SHE'S SPEAKING.

...ALTHOUGH, THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M NOT AFRAID OF THE REALITY OF DEATH

...I'M RELIEVED TO HEAR THAT, Y'KNOW

THE MAINLAND INVASION BY THE BETA...

—THE MANY LIVES

THAT TIME WHEN MORE THAN HALF THE COUNTRY WAS LOST...

EVEN YOU UNDERSTAND... WHAT IT WAS THAT DID NOT LET THE JAPANESE PEOPLE GO INTO A PANIC ON THE OCCASION OF AN UNPRECEDENTED NATIONAL CRISIS

—IT'S BECAUSE IN THE HEART / MIND / SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE, (EACH PERSON) THERE WAS THE COUNTRY

AND BECAUSE THE SHOUGUNATE FAMILY EXISTS ALONG WITH THE PEOPLE (CITIZENRY / NATION)

AS THE FOUNDATION (THE CORNERSTONE) OF THE HEART / MIND / SPIRIT

AND ALONG WITH THE COUNTRY, THERE WAS A PERSON

ゴゴゴゴ

THUMP.

THUD

WHAT SORT OF THING IS THIS ? WHO IN THE WORLD ARE THESE PEO
HOU... YOU MEAN YOU DO NOT KNOW THIS LADY ?
EH ?
05 FROM 06 ...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY... THESE PEOPLE ARE OKAY
...ROGER THAT
THIS HAPPENS TO BE HER HIGHNESS, KOUBUIN YUUHI
YOU INSOLENT PERSON (GASP) !!
... KOUBUIN ... YUUHI ...?
ARE YOU ADDRESSING HER RULING MAJESTY, THE DAISHOGUN, (SUPREME GENERAL) ...
THE WOMAN WHO HAS FULL AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE JAPANESE EMPIRE, BY HER FIRST NAME ? SHIROGANE TAKERU
WHA- ...!?
THIS... GIRL... WHO'S THE SPITTING IMAGE OF MEIYA.... IS...
THE SHOGUN !?

IT'S OKAY
I ORDERED IT
SHIROGANE, IS IT
EH !?
...DON'T BE NOISY... SHIROGANE TAKERU

...YOU LEAKED OUT HER HIGHNESS' ESCAPE INFORMATION !?

IT'S NATURAL — THAT'S THE AIM, ISN'T IT
THEY WILL UNMISTAKINGLY COME AFTER HER, NOW, Y'KNOW !?
BUT, THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE WANTS HER HIGHNESS' APPROVAL, RIGHT !?

IF THEY ARE DRAWN HERE, AN ENTIRE TEAM (THE WHOLE ARMY) OF THE EMPIRE, THE KONOE, AND THE UNITED NATIONS WILL ARRIVE IN PURSUIT
...IF THAT HAPPENS, THE BATTLE AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WILL END, TOO — DO YOU DIFFER ?
IN FACT, HER HIGHNESS VOLUNTEERED FOR THE DECOY ROLE HERSELF IN ORDER TO KEEP THE CITIZENS OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL AWAY FROM THE WAR
— !!

YOROI... YOU DID A GREAT JUSTICE HERE
I NO LONGER WANT TO HEAR NEWS ABOUT LOSING MY RETAINER ...PLEASE BE CAREFUL
THE PERSON WHO WAS ABLE TO KILL THE PERSON WHO KILLED... THE REASON WHY THEY ARE SUBJECTS (RETAINERS) ALIKE
PLUS HOW YOUR HIGHNESS' SORROW IS... I KNOW NOT ONLY THESE THINGS, BUT...
I WAS COMPELLED TO STAND UP SO THAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE UNHAPPY ABOUT THE COUNTRY'S DISORDER WILL CORRECT THAT
THAT IS THE TRUTH OF THIS SITUATION
EVEN IF THEY CHOOSE THE WRONG PATH
AS LONG AS SUCH YOUTHS EXIST... THEY STILL WON'T BE WHAT JAPAN ALSO THREW AWAY, YET
JAPAN WILL WAKE UP ONCE AGAIN BY DRAINING OUT THE PUS HERE
I BELIEVE THAT

NOTES: ALL THE DIALOG ON THIS PAGE WAS FAIRLY STRAIGHT FORWARD BUT YOROI'S SENTENCE ON BALLOON 2, PANEL 4--AS SIMPLE AS IT SEEMED--WAS RATHER CONFUSING TO ME. BUT AFTER A TAKE, I THINK I FINALLY GOT THE GIST OF IT.

THIS SITUATION IS CONVENIENT FOR US
YUUKO-SENSEI ...
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THE INTENTION THAT YOU WILL HAVE DO TO US...!?
NOTES: ISUMI'S RANK AND INFORMATION WAS NOT MENTIONED IN THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION. I HAD TO LOOK IT UP. THIS PIECE OF TRIVIA WAS THE INITIAL REASON WHY I MADE THIS "EXTRA" PAGE!
ISUMI (SPECIAL TASK FORCE "SQUAD A-01" COMPANY COMMANDER, CAPTAIN ISUMI MICHIRU)
!
I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S TIME TO CHECK-OUT ...
ARE YOU READY ?
SFX NOTES: APPARENTLY THE COMMANDER AND SUB-COMMANDER ARE WATCHING THE BATTLE UNFOLD LIVE ON SCREEN
IT'S BECOMING INTERESTING, HUH ...
IT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR, SUB-COMMANDER
WHEN IT HAPPENS, FROM THEN ON, OUR JOB WILL BE
TO DISALLOW THOSE GUYS (OUR COLLEAGUES, THE COMPANY, THE LOT) FROM GOING ON STAGE
...I'M RELYING ON (ENTRUSTING IN) YOU, YOU KNOW
MA'AM
NOTES: I INITIALLY HAD YUUKO-SENSEI SAY "THOSE GUYS," BUT FOR SOME ODD REASON, IT JUST DIDN'T SOUND LIKE HER; OH, IT DIDN'T SEEM TO FIT HER PERSONALITY TO SAY THAT.

KASHIWAGI!!
(2ND LT KASHIWAGI HARUKO)
IF YOU WANT TO GO TO THE OTHER SIDE, I WON'T PARTICULARLY STOP YOU, YOU KNOW?
...OH MY MY
HAS IT BEEN TAKEN THERE?
YOU CAN VOLUNTEER FOR A ONE-MAN DIVERSION FOR THE SAKE OF HER HIGHNESS ...DO YOU THINK IT'S A SITUATION THAT WILL MOVE YOU TO TEARS?
AND YOU OCCASIONALLY THOUGHT WHETHER IT WOULD TURN YOU TOWARDS THE STARRING ROLE, DIDN'T YOU?
AH HA HA
GIVEN THAT I TOTALLY GET NERVOUS WHEN I'M IN FRONT OF A GREAT PERSON
I DECLINE
ROGER!!
WE'RE GOING TO ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET THOSE FLEDGLINGS CAN SAFELY MAKE IT DOWN THE RUNWAY TO THE STAGE!
COME NOW, YOU ALL... THE PLEASANT VACATION AT THE VILLA IS UP TO HERE
WE'RE HEADING TO HAKONE!
THE HQ (THE FRONTLINE HEADQUARTERS) AT THE ODAWARA WEST INTERCHANGE MARK HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY SILENT, TOO
COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EMPIRE'S ATSUGI BASE STOPPED APPROXIMATELY 10 MINUTES AGO

諸君の行為は
重大な内政干渉である
直ちに戦闘行為を
停止せよ
Repeat, speak in English,
the official language.
I don't understand what
you're saying.
繰り返す
国際公用語である
英語にて通信せよ
…何を言っているのか
わからない
米軍機に
告ぐ
…
英語など
クソ食らえ
< Attention
US Military crafts
...You and
your English
and such can
eat shit >
繰り返し
…
英語など
クソ食らえ
< I repeat...
You and your English can
eat shit >
<...You and your English
blows >
<...Damn English, etc.
to hell >
<...Fuck off with
your English and such >
NOTES: IN PANEL 3, BALLOON 1 IS THE MORE LITERAL TAKE. IN BALLOON 2 ARE VARIOUS SAMPLE OF THE MANY DIFFERENT TAKES I HAD, ALL WITH VARYING DEGREES OF PROFANITY. I ALMOST CONSIDERED SOMETHING MILDER THAN THE FINAL TAKE, BUT IT JUST DIDN'T HAVE THE SAME INTENSITY FOR WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A TENSE MOMENT.
—— What?
——何?
NOTES: JUST FOR FUN, I PRESENT PANELS 1, 2 AND 4 AS PRESENTED IN THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE MANGA.

NOTES: PRESENTED HERE IS THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION WITH A MORE LITERAL TAKE TO WHAT IS BEING SAID IN BUBBLES.

60
——Report your status, everyone.
——各機 損害報告
(— ALL UNITS, DAMAGE REPORT)
Spike 4.. Everything's A-Ow-Kay.
スパイク4 ——問題なし
(SPIKE 4 — NO PROBLEMO)
Spike 3 ——quite well.
スパイク3 ——ありません
(SPIKE 3 — I HAVE NONE)
Spike 2 ——all right.
スパイク2 ——ありません
(SPIKE 2 — I HAVE NONE)
Well done.
上出来だ
(WELL DONE / GOOD WORK)
The enemy forces are surrounding our forces, and we'll pick 'em from the sides. ——Follow me.
味方を包囲中の敵部隊を 端から狩るぞ ——ついて来い
(WE WILL HUNT/PICK OFF THE ENEMY FORCES THAT'S SURROUNDING OUR ALLIES FROM THE OUTSKIRTS — FOLLOW ME)
Roger That!!
——了解ッ!!
(ROGER!!=/, ROGER THAT!!)

NOTES:
WHY I AM / SELF-PROCLAIMED "INE INE EDITOR": PANEL 4 BUGGED THE HECK OUT OF ME. THE ARTIST'S WORK IS ALREADY IMPECCABLE AND YET...
THEY STOPPED THE COUP D'ETAT FORCE DEAD ON THEIR TRACKS !
IN-INCREDIBLE ...
AMAZING... THOSE ARE THE U.S. MILITARY'S LATEST, STATE-OF-THE-ART UNITS !
THEY MADE A FUSELAGE THAT CAN HARDLY BE CAPTURED BY RADAR EVEN IN THAT SHORT A DISTANCE...
AND IT'S SPECIALIZED FOR INTER-PERSONAL COMBAT !
WE'RE ABLE TO GAIN A LITTLE TIME BECAUSE OF THAT! IF WE CAN PULL AWAY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE...!
... ...
E1
E2
E3
IZU SKYLINE
US 108wig
UN 207-sqd
HOWEVER, THE COUP D'ETAT FORCES ARE ADVANCING AT AN ABNORMAL SPEED!..
AS IT IS, BY THE TIME WE REACH THE HIEKAWA TOLLGATE, ANOTHER SQUAD IS SURE TO BE WAITING AROUND TOMEI (THE TOMEI EXPRESSWAY) ...WHAT SHOULD WE DO THEN!?

SFX NOTES TO PANELS 2 AND 3 "GASHUN"
1) "SHUN" = A RUSHING OR DEFLATING SOUND. "GA" EMPHASIZES IT
2) "SHUN" = THE SOUND OF SOMETHING DROOPING OR WILTING
DUE TO EMOTIONAL OR PHYSICAL TRAUMA. "GA" EMPHASIZES IT

ARE YOU READY TO RUMBLE!
MEIYA AND HER HIGHNESS ARE TWINS ...
I DID THINK BY NO MEANS, BUT, LIKE, IT'S A MUCH CLOSER RELATIONSHIP...!
ZOOSH!!
VWOOSH
VWOOSH
...YOUR HIGHNESS, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
SINCE WE GAINED SOME DISTANCE, THANKS TO THE U.S. ARMY, I (MISSING VERB) A PROPOSAL TO REDUCE OUR SPEED
THIS IS BAD... HER SYMPTOMS ARE GETTING WORSE THAN BEFORE WE RECHARGED! SHE'S AT HER LIMIT, ALREADY!
PROTH
...UH...
HEAVY
DON'T...! I'M FINE AND CARRY OUT YOUR MISSION WITHOUT CONCERN!
HOWEVER! NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, YOUR HIGHNESS CAN'T KEEP AT THE CURRENT SPEED!
...IF IT'S ME, IT'S FINE
NO MATTER HOW STRINGENT, I WILL NOT DIE BECAUSE OF MOTION SICKNESS
BUT ...!

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA

THIS VOLUME HAS "BLANK PAGES."

THAT'S HOW IT WAS PUBLISHED.

I TOOK THOSE "BLANK PAGES" AND JOINED THEM TO THE ADJACENT OR OPPOSING PAGE TO MAKE IT MORE VISUALLY APPEALING AND TO PRESENT IT AS IT WOULD BE SEEN (DIGITALLY SPEAKING) IF YOU WERE HOLDING THE MANGA IN YOUR HAND...
LIKE THESE TWO PAGES HERE, PAGES 171 AND 172.

THESE TWO PAGES, AS WITH ALL THE OTHER PAGES, WERE ORIGINALLY SEPARATE.
AND I INITIALLY KEPT THEM THAT WAY.

BUT, IN VIEW OF THE OVERALL LAYOUT OF THE MANGA, IT JUST DIDN'T SIT RIGHT WITH ME AND I ENDED UP JOINING THEM AS I DID WITH PREVIOUS PAGES.

I EXPERIMENTED WITH CHANGING THE BACKGROUNDS TO PAGE 171, TO KEEP IT CONSISTENT WITH THE OTHER 2-PAGE SPREADS OR EVEN CONSISTENT WITH EACH OTHER.

THE FOLLOWING 2 FILES ARE THE RESULTS OF THAT EXPERIMENT.

To BE CONTINUED....

To BE CONTINUED....

To BE CONTINUED....